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Lawrences allowed to read report

## Condon will fight to stay in his job

By Stewart Tendler, Michael Harvey and Philip Webster

SIR PAUL CONDON, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, yesterday signalled he would not resign over the Stephen Lawrence report after seeing it for the first time behind closed doors at the Home

As Scotland Yard repeated Sir Paul's pledge to see out his full term of seven years and to retire next January, the Commissioner had an unexpected meeting with Jack Straw when he went to the Home Office to read the report.

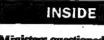
It is believed that Sir Paul's willingness to embrace the new definition of institutional racism contained in the report may be enough for him to ride out the storm.

The Home Secretary, is understood to be reluctant to call for Sir Paul to go. He believes that such a move would have a damaging impact on morale across the police force for which he is responsible.

try to block publication of the leak on Saturday night, it was totable that Mr Straw went out of his way to refer to its effect on Sir Paul.

"That prejudicial comments have been made against the Commissioner, even before he has had a chance to see the report, is one reason of many why it was right to stop this happening," Mr Straw told the Commons.

Following the report's conclusion that there was "pernicious and institutionalised racism" in the Metropolitan Po-



Libby Purves.

lice, some left-wing MPs will tomorrow demand his resignation. But Sir Paul appeared

ready to take them on.
One senior Yard officer said that the Commissioner was resolved to carry on. He would only resign if the demands from MPs and the public became overwhelming. Sir Paul believes he can accept the report and survive.

John Barnie, Secretary of the London branch of the Pofice Federation, said : "We are one hundred per cent behind him and don't think he should leave and he is feeling the



same way." Chief constables also believe he will stay and bow to the definition of institutional racism set out by Sir William Macoherson of Cluny in the report released tomorrow.

Yesterday Sir Paul was already at the Home Office by the time the news was announced shortly before midday that Mr Straw would allow the Commissioner and the the parents of Stephen Lawrence to see the report.

In the most excruciating two hours of his career, Sir Paul sat in an office on his own on the seventh floor of No 50 Oueen Anne's Gate to read the damning verdict on his force and its handling of the investigation into the racist stabbing of the black A-level student. Sir Paul was not allowed to take notes, nor to take away a copy of the report.

Sir Paul left the Home Of-fice shortly before two o'clock, escaping waiting photograrear entrance. Meanwhile, the Lawrences were on their way to the Home Office.

Doreen Lawrence was at work when the news came through late in the morning. Her husband Neville and 1mran Khan, the family's solicitor, arrived without her at 2.40pm. Greeted by a Home Office press officer, they were ushered to a back entrance surrounded by a mob of photographers. Mr Lawrence looked on the verge of tears as he fended off questions with an abrupt "I am saying nothing".



Mrs Lawrence arrived at being driven out to the Com-

For the Lawrences, this was the moment of truth. Having failed to see anyone jailed for the killing, they view the report's recommendations as some compensation for their grief and trauma.

They took their time, sitting in the office, reading each page carefully. In all, the Lawrences took more than three hours to read and digest the report's contents.

Yesterday chief constables indicated privately that they can live with the new definition of institutional racism

and the Association of Chief 3.15pm just as Mr Straw was Police Officers is expected to act the Commons as Mr Straw except it. But one senior chief conthat the new definition might make officers more cautious

about making arrests.
The Police Superintendents' Association also expressed worries. Chief Superintendent Des Parkinson said the definition which talks about "unwitting prejudice" would be so broad that it would be meaningless. Both he and Inspector Glen Smyth, Chairman of the London branch of the Police Federation, said they believed that Sir Paul had been the victim of a dirty tricks campaign from within the Home Office.

plained his actions of Saturthat freedom of the press had been challenged were "absurd." But Mr Straw was ordered by the Speaker to apologise to Sir Norman Fowler, his

Tory shadow. Sir Norman, a non executive chairman of a newspaper group, accused Mr Straw of being autocratic. As the Home Secretary retorted that he was speaking as a newspaper chairman rather than as an MP, an angry Sir Norman called him a "cheap little

man". The Speaker intervened and Sir Norman renewed his attack, branding Mr Straw's an autocratic course of action". He said ministers were the "chief leakers in advance" of their own appouncements and said the attempt to claim Mr Straw was trying to defend parliamentary democracy "de-

fied belief". "No issue of national security was at stake in this case. What you should do is to apologise to the House and the public for the action that you have taken and to give an assurance that neither you nor any other government minister will repeat that action," he added.

#### Blair gives euro signal to business

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

THE strongest signal so far to business and the European Union that the Government is warming to British membership of the euro will be sent

out today.
The Prime Minister, rather than Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, is to announce details of the national changeover plan for the introduction of the single currency in the event of a decision by the British people in a referendum in the next Parliament to go in.

It is understood to envisage a three-year period between a referendum vote and the abolition of sterling as legal tender.
Tony Blair's decision to

present the 60-page document - backed by Mr Brown, according to Treasury sources last night - will be seen as a further sign that he believes eventual membership to be inevitable.

There will be no change in the long-established "prepare and decide" policy of the Government. Membership of the single currency in this Parliament is ruled out.

The tone of Mr Blair's statement to the Commons will be significant, according to informed government sources. Although he will be present a practical document setting out the "nuts and bolts" changes that would have to be made in the event of going into the euro, the overall message to business will be that the Govemment is serious about entry if the economic tests set by Mr Brown in 1997 are met.

Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, said Mr Blair's decision "shows just how committed the Government are to rushing headlong into the single currency".

Euro slip, page 27

#### Eton boy found hanged in room

A 15-year-old Eton College pu-pil was found hanged in his room. Nicholas Taylor, who was in his second year, was certified dead in Baldwins sec House. The police said there were no suspicious cir-

Highbury replay

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preference . Critical lists

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PER MINISTER

Arsenal and Sheffield United have been allowed to play their FA Cup fifth round re-

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## Drama's enfant terrible takes her own life at 27

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

SARAH KANE, the enfant terrible of the theatre who sent shudders through her audiences with the violence and depravity of her plays, is be-lieved to have committed suicide at 27.

The playwright will be best remembered for Blasted at the Royal Court Theatre in London, which the critics damned for its explicit sex and violence. The 1995 play featured a character being raped by a soldier before having his eyes gouged out and and his tongue eaten. Ms Kane was regarded as

an emerging talent whose death, early on Saturday, will create debate over the worth of the four plays she had written. The Royal Court was convinced it had unearthed a major talent who addressed racism, sexism, abuse and other

themes of today's society. The

theatre commissioned another

play from her, Cleansed -



Sarah Kane: major talent

which featured someone injecting heroin into an eyeball and a man being raped with a

broom handle. She was the daughter of Peter Kane, the former East Anglia correspondent of The Mirror, who retired recently. She grew up in Essex and graduated with a first in drama from Bristol University. She was an intensely private individual who once described berself as "a Christian until I was about 17", an experience she recalled as "a spirit-filled. born-again lunacy".

The real Kane was a secret. As one interviewer put it: "In an ideal world, she probably wouldn't even reveal her

Claiming that the inspiration for the violence in her work came partly from the Bi-ble, she said: "The reading I did in my formative years was the Bible, which is incredibly violent ... full of rape, mutilation, war and pestilence."

She viewed her move away from religion as her "first rela-tionship break-up", one that was to affect her writing: in Continued on page 2, col 5

Benedict Nightingale, page 2 Tha Obituary, page 21 rey.

#### **Primary lessons** for Blunkett

By HANNAH BETTS

DAVID BLUNKETT, the Education Secretary, faces an uphill battle to meet the Government's education targets, according to the results of almost 15,000 primary schools published in The Times today. Mr Blunkett has offered to

resign on the issue of raising standards in the three Rs by 2002, promising that 80 per cent of II-year-olds will achieve standards for their age group in English, and 75 per cent in maths. But the results show only 64 per cent of children meeting their age group standards in English and 58

per cent in maths. Nottingham finished bottom of the 150 local education authorities, followed by Newham and Tower Hamlets, both in east London, Sandwell in West Midlands and Hackney. Scilly is the most successful authority, followed by City of London, Richmond upon

Thames, Wokingham and Sur-

The most improved school in England is Malinslee County Primary, near Telford. Last year Malinslee had the second worst results in the country.

The other great success stories of this year's tables are St Michael's Bamford Church of England Primary School in Ro-chdale, and Shenington Church of England School in Oxford, both of which have recorded maximum scores in all three years of the tables.

The tables are propped up by Burnt Tree Primary School in Oldbury in the West Mid-lands. Although four of the 26 children sitting the tests reached the expected level in English, only one did so in maths and science.

Defending the figures, Mr

Blunkett pointed to just short of a thousand schools that have shown consistent improvement since the tables were first published in 1997.

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## Lottery grant to haul stone to the henge

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

AT LEAST prehistoric man knew why he was laboriously transporting giant bluestones from west Wales to Stonehenge. The volunteers who were given £100,000 lottery money yesterday to follow in his footsteps have no such ex-cuse for making the five-month jour-

Dressed in skins and using Stone Age technology, they intend to haul a four tonne rock 240 miles from the

Preseli mountains to the mysterious

monument on Salisbury Plain. The

prehistoric monument more than 4,000 years ago. Although enthusiasts have demonstrated different methods of moving the ten-foot long stones using nothing more than logs and primitive ropes, no one had been foolhardy enough to attempt the entire trip. Several hundred volunteers will

start the stone on its way by hauling it down the mountain from a Stone Age quarry, using wooden rollers, in May. Then it will be loaded on to a wooden raft and floated through Milford Haven and along the coast of south Wales via Swansea and Cardiff on its way to first stones were taken from the Preseli . the River Avon. It will make the final to form an inner horseshoe within the leg of its journey overland, again using

logs as rollers. Sinead Henehan, a spokeswoman for Menter Preseli, the rural conservation group planning the re-enactment, said: This is a real chance to recreate how ancient man built Stonehenge all those years ago. We will be moving the stones only using information available at the time it was built.

"As well as being a fun way of marking the millennium, the project has a serious scientific purpose. We want to show that Stone Age man was capable of making such a journey. Although we don't know exactly how they did it, there have been a number of experiments using ropes and log rollers."

turies over how the stones were moved. Many say it was an impossible feat. leading to suggestions that Stone Age man may have had natural - or even supernatural - help. Some believe the stones were carried

Archaeologists have argued for cen-

three-quarters of the way in ice age glaciers. Others think they were levitated, or moved by flying saucers. Stones found in the sea at Milford Haven, however, suggest they were carried by water - a theory Menter Preseli will

If they succeed, they will have shown how Stone Age man could have moved the stones. They still won't know why.

## Stormin' Norman can't shake the House that Jack built

Last in 150

A tour peril do journalists forget that MPs hate us more than they hate each other. Jack Straw's Commons defence yesterday of his weekend attempt to "gag" the press did him no harm at all.

Rattled but unrepentant, the Home Secretary misjudged badly at first, in an un-characteristic personal attack on his Tory Shadow; but he was steadied by support from every Labour MP who rose. Tory indignation sounded synthetic: Liberal Democrats backed Straw; and from his

own side came support that

ing: it was enthusiastic. If the mood behind Mr Straw was any guide, there's just one question in Government backbenchers' minds: Why only The Sunday Telegraph?" As he settled back to questions after a nervy open-ing statement. MP after MP behind him leapt up to stiffen

his resolve The Chief Whip. Ann Tay-lor, quite overtaken by fervour, started shouting and waving her arms at the Conservative front bench. Furning (from a sedentary

position) "You cheap little man!", Straw's Tory Shadow. Sir Norman Fowler, had made a good fist of the Opposition indictment. Sir Norman had almost sounded cross, which for Sir Norman is fury indeed. But the problem was that the Tory theme tune was not really "Press Freedom" but You would cry too, now it's rappened to you.

Having been themselves knocked about by the newspapers. Tories were more gleeful than angry at Labour's crying "foul" The Opposition did not really deny that the leak



by Fleet Street (the Deputy Ed-

lery) he was too wound up.

(who had declared a press di-

He accused Sir Norman

was a foul; their howls were at the spectacle of Labour blowing the whistle. This lent a holmess to protests that pretended to be on behalf of the freedom of the press, but were really against Labour double

rectorship) of speaking for his Straw could have ignored them with a cynical chuckle. pocket rather than the public interest. This enraged Sir Nor-man, who complained. Unfor-But, reeling from the morntunately, Betty Boothroyd's ating's comprehensive pasting

asked Straw to repeat his attack. This made Sir Norman even more cross. Miss Boothroyd asked Straw to apologise: he replied "I withdraw", Tories shouted "Apoloitor of The Sunday Telegraph, gisel": and Straw then said "I Matthew d'Ancona, was' apologise" - but quietly. watching from the Press Gal-

tention had wandered. She

Straw recovered as his own side chirped up. First on his feet was Gerald Kaufman with an attack on Sir Norman of such venom that nobody noticed Mr Kaufman had forgotten to support his own side. Nobody else forgot. From Labour came not a peep of protest. More backbenchers than Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe & Nantwich) used the timehonoured with press freedom comes responsibility" upon which this sketchwriter remembers Ian Smith, the self-styled Prime Minister of Rhodesia, relying as he whited out large sections of the front page of the Rhodesia Herald.

When Julian Lewis (C, New Forest E) repeated a press allegation that a junior Home Office minister had done the leaking, a little bench of these creatures - Paul Boateng.

Kate Hoey and Mike O'Brien - rocked in extravagant mirth, glancing sideways at each other.

ip char,

Other Tory MPs such and Gerald Howarth (Aldershor) and Roger Gale (Thanet N) openly agreed with Straw that selective advance leaking was an evil; others implied it, by repeated allegations that Labour's spin-masters were no better than The Sunday Telegraph. This was less than a ringing endorsement of press liberty. Standing in one cor-Peter Mandelson ner, watched, elegantly absorbed.

## Jails face a £1m bill for docking inmates' wages

THOUSANDS of serving and former prisoners are expected to claim an estimated El million from the Prison Service after a legal claim over deductions from their wages for board and lodging.

The service is preparing for a flood of compensation claims after an admission that it had been unlawfully deducting cash from wages earned by offenders for 40 years.

It is estimated that at least 10,000 serving and former inmates in jails and England and Wales are eligible for refunds. The service is currently deducting £26,000 a month for board and lodgings from inmates' wages.

Prison governors have been instructed by the Prison Service to stop making the weekly deductions amounting to an average of £18.25 a week. In the past more than £40 a week per prisoner has been de-

The Prison Service admitted that it had been acting unlawfully after four prisoners, now at Whitemoor top-security jail in March, Cambridgeshire, began judicial review proceedings over the decision to de-

duct the money. John Duggan, serving life for murder, George Daly. Preece, also lifers, launched the challenge after the service

Prison Service admits mistake

in making prisoners pay for

board, reports **Richard Ford** 

began taking a cut from their wages while they were in Wakefield jail in 1994.

The prisoners, who were on the enhanced earning scheme, were receiving up to £120 a week for contract work in the jail's workshops. The prison took up to £40 a week to help towards board and lodgings at the jail, where the cost of keeping an inmate is almost £700 a.

The Prison Service stopped deducting board and lodging costs from inmates on the enhanced earning scheme as soon as the legal proceedings began in 1995 but continued taking the money from prisoners earning wages as part of pre-release work in the com-

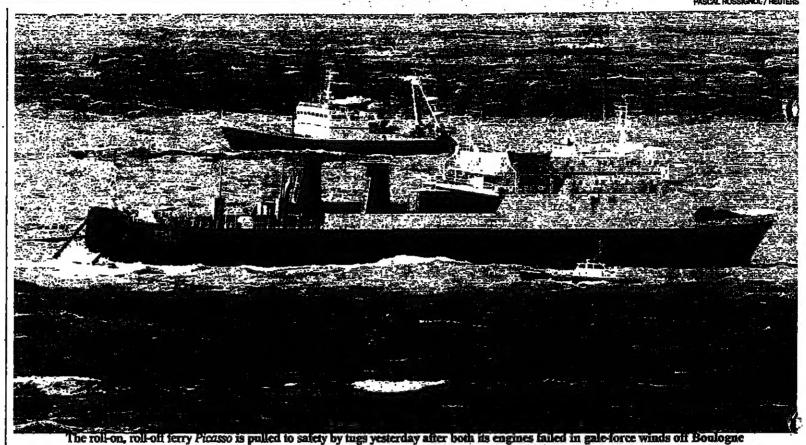
However, in preparing for the court case, the service was the deductions were unlawful. Peter Dawson, acting director of regimes, said in a Prison Service circular: "In the light of legal advice that the deductions were unlawful (because prisoners cannot be required to pay for their own imprisonment, and cannot consent to pay for their own imprisonment) the Prison Service has

conceded these cases." Aithough deductions have been made for board and lodgings since the mid 1950s, the service is only liable for claims going back to 1993.

A Prison Service spokesman said: "Our view was that these prisoners were taking part in these schemes voluntarily and therefore we were entitled to charge for board and lodg-

Mark Leech, a consultant with A.S.Law, a Liverpoolbased solicitors' practice which represented the four prisoners who brought the case, said: "I am delighted that the Prison Service has seen sense about these deductions. It means that all monies taken from prisoners for board and lodgings will have to be re-

He added: "Prisoners who receive realistic wages because they work on a comparable basis to those in the community will now be able to save for better position to survive financially when they get out."



## 18 winched to safety in Channel gale

A real talent that had

little chance to bloom

Benedict Nightingale on the brief life of Sarah Kane

Sylvia Plath, who committed

suicide in 1963, in that part of

the pantheon reserved for trou-

bled geniuses violently cut off

in their youth? A chance, yes:

but no more than that, since

she had yet to develop into the

assured playwright that, if you

refused to be morally pan-

icked by the eye-gouging, male rape and cannibalism of Blast-

ed, she promised to become.

Her sense of horror sur-passed that of the other disen-

chanted young playwrights who emerged in 1994 and 1995,

bringing London what some

have summed up as a Theatre. of Urban Ennui; but her subse-

quent work showed that, far

By ELIZABETH JUDGE AND SUSAN BELL

EIGHTEEN lorry drivers on board a British ferry had to be winched to safety yesterday amid gale force winds and rough seas, after both the ferry's engines failed. The 34 passengers and crew aboard the Picasso had to wait for an hour in the rough conditions before French and English rescue teams

The ferry, a freight and passenger ny Falcon Sea Freight, ran into difficulties shortly after leaving Boulogne for mained on board although a coast- was though to be responsible for the

Folkstone yesterday morning. Both the engines failed and gale force winds began to push the 5,669 ton yessel back towards the sea wall. The crew droppped two anchors but were unable to halt the ship's progress

against the gale. Alan Edwards, the ferry captain, radioed the French authorities, who requested British assistance. A French navy helicopter winched 12 passengers and six crew members to safety in the gale which was gusting at up to 50

WILL Sarah Kane, who is be-

lieved to have killed herself, be

remembered merely as a cal-

low specialist in shallow

Will she go down in theat-rical history as the young wom-

an whose Blasted left one lead-

ing critic declaring himself "ut-

terly and entirely disgusted by

a play which appears to know no bounds of human decency

- and went on to get the most

outraged reviews since Ed-

ward Bond's Saved in 1965 or

even lbsen's Ghosts a century

Or is there a chance she will

join Joe Orton, murdered by his envious flatmate in 1967, or

Continued from page 1

Cleansed, she set out to create

a godless universe. She felt she

had been damned for renounc-

feverishly in the early hours,

barely stopping to sleep, wrote her play, Crave, under a pseu-

donym. But she denied that

she had thought of changing

She was so hurt by the press that she confided to friends

that, "the only good journalist is a dead journalist". One

friend said yesterday that the

press coverage could not have

helped her state of mind: "It

made her feel vulnerable. She

felt the stage and theatre should have been able to stage

her name permanently.

Ms Kane, who used to write

shock-effects?

or so ago?

guard helicopter sent from Portsmouth was on stand-by to take them off in case efforts to secure the vessel failed.

The captain and crew eventually succeeded in restarting the ferry's engines.

They returned her safely to Folkestone escorted by the British rescue tug, the Far Turbot.

Alain Carpentier, one of the rescued lorry drivers, said: "Suddenly the. lights went out, there was a loud noise, the engines stopped and there was smoke coming out of the hold."

The captain and a skeleton crew reguard said that an electrical failure

vessel lost power in a north-westerly gale and the two anchors went down into bad holding ground." He added: "Those on board were

very fortunate to get off scot-free. The ferry did touch bottom, but luckily it was just sand and shells."

The rescue helicopter had to be called out several hours later to pluck two French photographers from a jetty after they became engulied by high waves and rising tides.

Forecast, page 26

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LEADERS of the biggest rail union fear a lead to a wave of industrial action. Militants are campaigning to oust Jimmy Knapp, the leader of the Rail, Maritime and Transport Union: claiming that he has failed to take a tough enough stance. Campaigning for the post of general secretary began yesterday with Greg Tucker,

Playwright dies

Ms Kane once commented: "People think Crave is the most uplifting and hopeful thing I've written, yet it ends in suicide and despair. It is cer-tainly the most painful and dif-ficult play I've written. Some people seem to find release at

Friends were too shocked to

works without censorship and

the end of it, but I think it's only the release of death."

discuss the exact circumstances of her death, although they confirmed that it was suicide. Ian Rickson, artistic director of the Royal Court, said: "Sarah was a profound human being and a true poet of the theatre. All of us ... are so very devastated by her loss."

portunist that some reviewers of Blasted thought," I found myself writing. "She has no less integrity than Pinter or Bond, but, God knows, I would hate to live in her

Maybe she hated living in her own head. That thought again struck me when her

Crave hit the Edinburgh Festival last year. There were no horrific effects, just people sit-ting and talking quietly and poetically about themselves and each other. One spoke of his yearning for love, another of her longing for children, a third of a desolation and selfhatred that derived from

and felt - anguish.

This anguish was again ex-

pressed in notably bold terms in Cleansed, which appeared at the Royal Court in 1998. Set

in a soul-destroying institution

where love was punished by

beatings, mutilation and mur-

der, it was reminiscent of Ha-

rold Pinter's Hothouse or Kaf-ka's In a Penal Colony, yet

clearly embodied Kane's own

"She is not the gloating op-

abuse and rejection. But it struck me as a deeply personal play, though one could not confidently identify Kane with any of her characters. Whether or not it represented any lasting change in her style, it was a strange, beautiful piece: proof, if any were needed, that she was a

writer of serious talent.

and the second second

NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Islam is a good force, says Blair

Tony Blair has said that when anyone thinks of Islam, their first thoughts should be of "peace, tolerance and a force for good". In an interview with Muslim News, the Prime Minister says he has "no truck at all" with those who suggest that conflict is inevitable between Islam and the West.

He wants the Muslim community to feel "fully accepted and catered for in Britain, to feel that their views can be expressed and heard by government, and to become fully represented at all the levels of pub-

#### Professors' deal Professors at Cambridge Uni-

versity are to receive a pay rise of up to 50 per cent in an attempt to compete with American institutions. Under the package, approved in a bailot of 3,300 senior staff at the university, leading professors will receive an extra £22,000, making some more than £20,000 better off than their equivalents at Oxford.

#### Party spirit

Organisers of festivities to mark the millennium put failt. with the largest grants package yet for religious celebra-tions. More than £3 million of lottery money will be spent on projects to add a spiritual di-mension to the party under the El00 million Millennium Festival launched by Chris Smith. the Culture Secretary.

#### Rail union clash raises strike fear

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

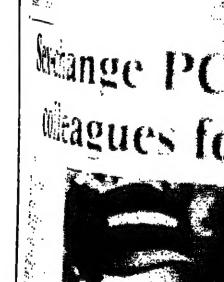
a hard-liner who was expelled from the Labour Party, mounting a challenge to Mr Knapp for the election on March 30. Senior colleagues of the general sec-

retary fear that apathy among the 60,000 union members could lead to Mr Tucker's victory. They point to the surprising election last year of Dave Rix, a left-winger, as general secretary of Aslef, the train drivers' union, after a low turnout.

Mr Knapp, a moderate, has been criticised by some within the union for failing

to win assurances from ministers over the future of the 16,000 RMT members working for London Underground when private firms take over running the Tube

Mr Tucker, a former Labour member of Lambeth Borough Council, has said that the union should reassert its own polinical agenda and demand the repeal of all anti-union laws. He has won widespread support, especially among London members, for his militant standpoint.





## GP charged with 7 new murders

Unexpected move by police brings the number of alleged victims to 15, reports Russell Jenkins

HAROLD SHIPMAN will face charges of murdering 15 of his women patients when he goes on trial next October. The GP, who runs a one-man practice in Hyde, Tameside, Greater Manchester, now stands accused of being one of Britain's most prolific se-

rial killers of modern times. Dr Shipman, 53, of Mottram, is alleged to have begun Uling the mostly elderly womcal patients in March 1995, and to have continued until the death of Kathleen Grundy, 81, a former mayoress of Hyde, in June last year.

He is accused of murdering two of the women in February last year, with his alleged victims dying within nine days of each other.

In an unexpected move. Greater Manchester Police yes-terday formally charged him with a further seven alleged murders to add to the eight murder charges he already faces. Dr Shipman later appeared before Tameside magis-

Greater Manchester Police said yesterday that the bodies of six of the women involved in the new charges had been cremated. In the other cases charges had followed exhumations from cemeteries.

Police have so far carried out 12 exhumations in cemeteries in Hyde and Bredbury, of which three have not led to murder charges. Detectives refuse to rule out further charges being laid. Detective Superintendent

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es arrike fet

Bernard Postles, who is leading the inquiry, said in a statement: "We will not enter into speculation about whether there will be any further charges or whether we have drawn a line under the inquiry now."

The doctor, wearing a white open-necked shirt and a red sweat shirt, appeared before Tameside magistrates in Ashton-under-Lyne at a tenminute hearing. He spoke only to confirm his name and address and reply "yes" when Nuttall, 65, in Gee Cross; of the bench, told Dr Shipman asked if he understood the na- Pamela Marguerite Hillier, that he had been committed to



on March 6, 1995



Irene Turner, 67, died on July 11, 1996



Lizzie Adams, 77, died on February 28, 1997



Jean Lilley, 59, died on April 25, 1997



Marie Quinn, 67, died on November 24, 1997

ter a plea on the new charges.

with murdering Muriel Grim-

shaw. 76, in Hyde; Marie

West, 81, in Hyde; Lizzie Ad-

ams, 77, in Hyde; Laura Wag-

staff, 81. in Gee Cross; Norah

He was yesterday charged



ture of the charges against him. He was not asked to en-68, in Hyde; and Maureen Al-ice Ward, 57, in Hyde. During the court hearing, there were no formal submissions from Anne Ball, the solicitor representing Dr Shipman in court, and no application to

> lift reporting restrictions. Thomas Wragg, chairman



Dr Shipman leaving Ashton police station yesterday

stand trial at a crown court on the charge of murdering Mrs Grimshaw, and that he faced another committal hearing before Tameside magistrates on the other six charges next month. Dr Shipman smiled briefly to his wife, Primrose, and their son in the public gal-

charged with the murders of £300,000 will. He has pleaded eight other women - Kathnot guilty to the four murder leen Grundy, 81; Bianka Pomfret, 49; Joan Melia and charges that have formally been put to him so far, and is due to appear before a judge at Winifred Mellor, both 73; Marie Quinn, 67; Ivy Lomas, Manchester Crown Court on 63; Irene Turner, 67; and Jean March I for a further plea and Lilley, 59, directions hearing.

Dr Shipman, a father of The doctor had already been with forging Mrs Grundy's charged with murdering were ows.



Bianka Pomfret, 49, died on December 10, 1997





Norah Nuttail, 65, died on January 26, 1998



Maureen Ward, 57, died on February 18, 1998







Joan Melia, 73, died

Each of the women that Dr



Kathleen Grundy, 81, died on June 24, 1998 patients at the surgery in Hyde's busy main shopping

Miss Ward, a college lecturer, was a spinster. Mrs West, a widow who lived in Gee Cross, owned a children's clothes shop in Newton Street Mrs Grimshaw, Mrs Nuttall and Mrs Adams were also

#### buys C4 interview with Monica

By CAROL MIDGLEY MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

MONICA LEWINSKY will tell how she was "effectively raped" by the American constitution in a "harrowing" interview to be broadcast by Channel 4.

Jon Snow, who conducted the interview, said that the former White House intern was "extremely candid" during the eight hours he spoke to her in New York.

She is said to reveal how she feels about President Clinton now and also her feelings for his wife. Hillary, and their daughter. Chelsea.

"She was brilliant and very moving in detailing how she was effectively raped by the American constitution," Mr Snow said, after flying back to London from New York yester-

"Her story is amazing but she has survived to tell the tale. It would probably have been more convenient for all concerned if she had had a breakdown and ended up in a unit somewhere."

Ms Lewinsky, who was paid £400,000 by Channel 4, sat in the living room of her mother's top-floor apartment in Manhanan overlooking Central Park while she was being

In the adjacent room sat her two lawyers, who monitored the interview. Ms Lewinsky's mother, Marcia Lewis, steplather, Peter Strauss, and aunt. Debra Finerman, waited in a hotel across the road until the interview was completed at 6pm on Sunday.

The one restriction placed on the interview by the special prosecutor. Kenneth Starr. was that she said nothing about him personally or his colleagues.

Mr Snow said that Mr Start's actions were "self-serving and defensive. She is very frustrated at not being able to say what she would like to say about Kenneth Starr."

It is one of only two interviews that she agreed to give and will be shown on Channel 4 next Thursday. The station has already sold the rights to its hour-long special to than 25 countries.

## Sex-change PC asked male colleagues for 'a snog'

By a Staff Reporter

A POLICE officer who became a woman after a sex change embarrassed male officers by asking them for kisses, an employment tribunal was told

Claire Ashton - formerly known as Tony - sent one of-ficer a note inquiring "Where's my snog - X", causing the blushing constable to leave the room, the tribunal was told. On another occasion the 17-year-old transsexual told an officer over the phone: "I'm still waiting for me kiss".

Ms Ashton, of Uffington, Shropshire, is claiming sex discrimination and discrimina-tion under the Disability Act against her former employees, West Mercia police. She claims she was bullied by colleagues and singled out for criticism because of the change in sex she was undergoing. The Shrewsbury hearing was told how she was banned from using the women's lavatory and treated "oppressively" during interviews with superiors.

Declan O'Dempsey, barrister for the applicant, said that until March 1997 Ms Ashton was employed with West Mercia police as a firearms expert. During the summer of 1996 Ms Ashton was found to suffer from "gender identification dysphoria", an illness causing

He said: The applicant started life biologically as a male but psychologically the



Tony Ashton, a firearms expert before his sex change

applicant has always been female." Ms Ashton began "gender realignment treatment" and agreed she would switch from her police post to a civilian job as a communications

The hearing was told that Ms Ashton found it difficult to concentrate and was often found in tears because of the hormone treatment. Mr O'Dempsey said that in

1997 Ms Ashton was sum-

moned to an interview and accused of sexually harassing two police officers. Her superiors had been informed that she had sent a note to a PC Morris asking for a "snog". Mr O'Dempsey said: "Dur-

that PC Morris was passed a note from Claire via another colleague, Cathy. He read it and said. 'Anytime, Cathy.' But Cathy pointed out that it was from Claire. The officer



Ashton: claims she was singled out for criticism

blushed and left room."About two weeks later Ms Ashton was interviewed after complaints that she was using the ladies' lavatories instead of a "general" lavatory agreed when she started the

Ms Ashton, who had been a police constable, left the force last year. She told the tribunal that the two occasions when she was alleged to have asked officers for kisses had been "blown out of all proportion". She said she had written a note to her colleague with "Where's my snog?" in re-

sponse to a message he had put on a card for her. The hearing was told that the officer had written "Who gets the first snog then?" on a leaving card for Ms Ashton before she joined the communica-

tions department

## Jolson star left up the Swanee

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A SHOW by an Al Joison impersonator at the London Palladium threatens to be a pale imitation of the real thing because his backing choir is refusing to black up. Clive Baldwin, an English-born per-Viormer who now lives in Florida, has a worldwide following and his Mother's

Day concert next month is expected to be a sell-out. However, the 80-strong Hallmark of Harmony choir from Sheffield has told promoters that the traditional minstrels' make-up is "inappropriate".

Yesterday Chris Tideman, the choir's

black make-up." Andy Petch, the leader of the choir, who have been national champions on five occasions, said that the first he knew of any ideas about black make-up was when they received instruc-

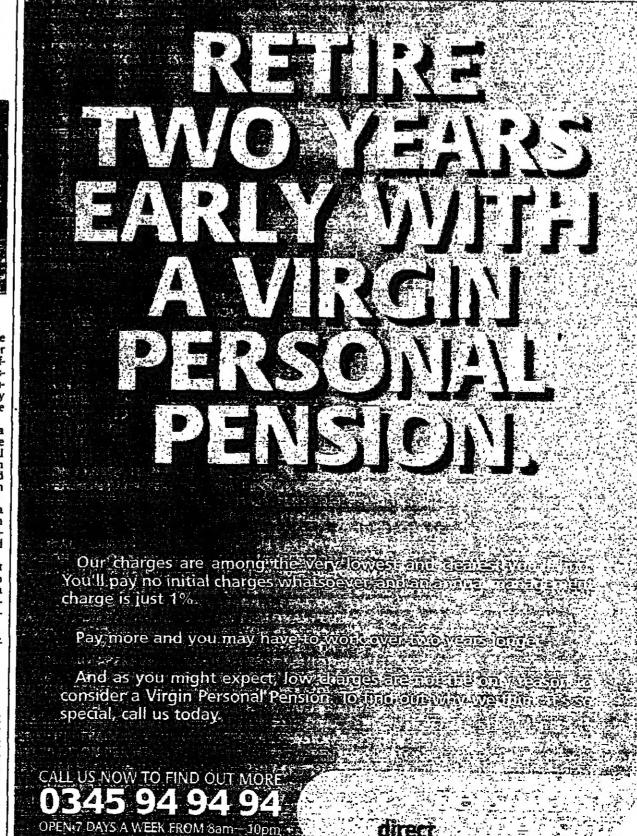
tions on how apply it.

Mr Baldwin, 64, said yesterday that he would have sacked the choir but for the fact that they would demand their £750 fee anyway. He said: "I am very disappointed. The show is being filmed by an American company and it will look ridiculous if I am there looking like Al Jolson, being backed by a white-faced choir.

"I wouldn't have booked them in the

first place if I had known there was going to be a problem like this. It's too late now to get another choir. There is no way that I would want to offend anyone by my performance but wearing black make-up is an integral part of my performance." He added. 'The choir want to sing one of the Jolson classics. Swanee, but I have decided not to let them. I will be doing it."

Mr Baldwin's routine fell foul of the Labour-controlled council in his home city of Hull last July when it refused to let him appear in a municipally owned theatre in his make-up. This provoked booing from an audience that did not appreciate the whiter-than-white show.



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calls are recorded and randomly monitored. "Source: Money Management, Autumn 1998.

Eton boy is found is found in hanged in his room





ensual, glamorous, hip. It's how some high fashion followers would describe the delights of wearing a mink coat. Every year, tens of thousands of mink are killed on fur farms throughout the UK. In the wild\*, mink establish territories of over a kilometre, where they climb, dive and swim. On farms, they are confined in rows of tiny cages. In such restricted conditions mink show abnormal behaviour such as fur-biting and even self-mutilation. We at the RSPCA believe that this is cruel. Nevertheless, there are still those who would kill for a real mink coat. The preferred method of slaughter on most farms is to gas the mink. On March 5th, the MP Maria Eagle's Bill to ban

fur farming in the UK, will be debated in the Commons. A new opinion poll revealed that 74%† of the British public support a ban on fur farming. If you're part of this majority, please write to your MP urging them to attend the House on March 5th and to vote in favour of the Bill. And let's make the needless suffering of animals for fur a trend that will never be fashlonable again.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL THE RSPCA ON 01403 223 284.

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# Eton boy is found hanged in his room

By HELEN JOHNSTONE AND ALAN HAMILTON

AN ETON boy was found hanged in his room at the col-lege yesterday. Nicholas Tay-lor, 15, was certified dead after being found shortly before breakfast.

Nicholas, who was in his second year, was a member of Baldwins Bec House. The boarding house, one 25 at Eton, is near Manor House, where Prince William and

Although an ambulance was called, Nicholas was pronounced dead at the scene by a police surgeon. His parents, who are believed to live near London, arrived at the public school outside Windsor a short time later.

Thames Valley Police are investigating the death but they have said that there were no suspicious circumstances. A post-mortem examination was being carried out and an inquest will be held.

Eton boys were told of their schoolmate's death at mornschoolmage's death at morning assembly and several were interviewed by police. The half-time holiday begins on Thursday and yesterday lessons were continuing as nor-

The Head Master, John Lewis, said that Nicholas had joined the school in September 97. "He had been making a reat success of his time at Eton, doing well at his work and at his games," he said. "He enjoyed the company of others and was much respected by them. The school's sympathies go out to the boy's par-

ents, family and friends."
The college takes pride in the quality of the pastoral care that it offers to its 1,284 pupils.

Each housemaster has charge of about 50 pupils, and acts in loco parentis to his pupils, usu-ally with his wife taking an active part in the care.

Last year a school inspec-

tion, conducted by a retired HM Inspector and a team of heads and senior teachers from leading independent schools, said that Eton's housemasters were "immensely caring and knowledgeable" about

their charges.
The inspector's report said of a school once known for flog-ging and brutality: This is a civilised community of pupils who respect one another's independence and live together equitably. Pupils generally feel secure in school and have confidence that any incidence of bullying is dealt with swiftly

Andrew Gailey, the Ulsterman who is housemaster for Manor House, and his wife, Shauna, were an important source of comfort to William at the time of the divorce of the Prince of Wales and Diana, Princess of Wales. Dr and Mrs Gailey and have become even more important to the welfare of the princes since the death of their mother 18

months ago. When Prince William was about to enter Eton, his estranged parents invited Dr and Mrs Gailey to drinks at St James's Palace to deliver the message that it would be up to the Gaileys, along with Eliz-abeth Heathcote, the matron of Manor House, to provide William with the stability that his parents could not. The system appears to have worked well.



New look makes fading glamour a thing of the past

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1997

## London checks out Burberry's new image

By LISA ARMSTRONG, FASHION EDITOR

THE 100-year-old British com-steamed repeatedly together pany that lured the American retailing prodigy Rosemary Bravo from Saks Fifth Avenue in 1997 to revitalise its image unveiled the results in its first catwalk show in London

Burberry, which gave the world the trenchcoat, originally designed for RAF officers in 1923, has languished in the style stakes for some years, with sluggish profits and a fading glamour. Bravo has hired the photographer Mario Testino for the advertising campaigns, featuring the British model Stella Tennant and Roberto Menichetti, who used to work at for the German designer Jil Sander.

Menichetti has designed its new, cutting edge line Pror-sum, named after the motto fluttering from the mounted knight in the Burberry logo. And cutting edge it was: hems made without seams but from three layers of different-col-

- were wrapped round the body. Watery coloured silk dresses enfolded the body like cocoons; slim coats came in the shape of weathered, pumpkin-coloured sheepskin, and cottons were treated to look like canvasses

As for that famous Burberry check, it was coated with a translucent top layer that gave it a faded, antique look. Menichetti is passionate about British heritage and his red-headed models, with flat brogues and artfully blushing cheeks, looked as though they were about to stride across the moors - as styled by Merchant Ivory.

Prorsum is already selling at Joseph, a store that would no sooner have stocked this label two years ago than it would have placed orders for Barbours. Prorsum will be available in Burberry's 50 some of the more traditional after all, in scaring the horses.



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## lawyer in Yemen

BY DANIEL MCGRORY

/EMENI secret police yester-day seized a London lawyer helping eight British Muslims held in Yemen on terrorist

Rashad Yaqoob was arrested shortly before he was due to publicise allegations that the youngest of the Britons, Mohammed Mustafa Kamel, 17, had been gang raped by his

Foreign Office diplomats demanded to know what happened to Mr Yaqoob, who by last night was under police guard in hospital after suffering a "nervous collapse". Yem-eni security chiefs last night refused to say what they intend to do next with the 27-year-old lawyer. The arrest is bound to strain still further relations between Whitehall and Sanaa over the conduct of the investigation into an alleged plot to

arry out terrorist bombings. The Britons, Mohsin Ghalain, 18: Malik Nasser Harhra, 26; Ghulam Hussein, 25; Shahid Butt, 33; Samad Ahmed, 21; Mohammed Mustafa Karnel; Shaz Nahi and Ayad Hussein all deny associating with armed groups, plot-ting murder and destruction, and illegal possession of weap-

#### Police seize | Pop music school shut by debts

By Adam Sherwin

THE music academy that trains the pop performers of the future has been forced to close its doors. The London bers of the bands Placebo and Soul Asylum were students, has called in the receivers after debts reached more than

£150,000. The School, in East London, closed on the night of the Brit Awards, when the industry celebrated its success. About 100 students have been forced to abandon their courses.

The school was founded as a non-profit venture in 1984 to offer talented young people teaching from top musicians and advice sessions from music industry experts. Students paid £5,000 a year to attend.

They received national vocational qualifications in guitar. drums, singing or recording skills. There are more than 1,000 graduates of the school working in the music industry. Some former students have achieved fame in bands including Morcheeba, others work as session musicians, or in West End theatre orches-

However, there is hope: last night a potential buyer had expressed a serious interest.

#### 1,500 trees felled to save rare lily

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

MORE than 1,500 trees have been felled to save one of Britain's rarest flowers. The tiny yellow Radnor lily, a survivor from the end of the last lee Age, is confined to a half-mile square of Mid-Wales. The plant flowers only for

two weeks in winter. This winter only three of the finger nail-sized lilies came out and one was eaten by an animal. The plants were also being threatened by encroaching trees. Conservationists have cut down the Scots pines and beech trees smothering the 3in plants with shade and fallen leaves. The £5,000 operation was ordered by the Forestry Commission and the Countryside Council for Wales.

The plant thrives in soilfilled cracks in volcanic rocks aaround a disused quarry near the border town of King-

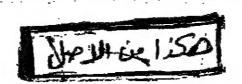
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The Radnor hily clings on after 12,000 years

ton. The warm, dry conditions of the sheltered, south-facing hillside mimic the Mediterranean that is its natural home.

The Radnor lily, wide-spread across Britain 12,000 years ago, was identified in 1975 by Ray Woods, 52, a botanist. He said: "I hope that the measures we are taking will enable the fily to survive for another 12,000 years."



## Community leaders demand action now on inquiry findings

BLACK community leaders welcomed the conclusion by the Stephen Lawrence inquiry that there is "institutional racism" at Scotland Yard, but few believe it will make much difference to the

way police treat ethnic minorities. Most felt that when the publicity surrounding the report dies down, police behaviour on the streets will

Peter Herbert, the chairman of the Society of Black Lawyers, said: There will be a lot of noise and promises in the next few weeks because it is high profile. But it now

of the police take on board what institutional racism really means and do something about it.

"It's taken a long time to get this far, but at least the inquiry is not hiding behind the old argument that it's just a few bad apples to

In the South London street where Stephen Lawrence was murdered, black youths argued that police attitudes to them would not change. "What good will some rep-ort do in places like this?" one

asked. "What judge or politician will he on these streets to see how we are treated? When we complain next time who will listen?"

Suresh Grover, the head of the Southall Monitoring Group. which watches police treatment of minorities, said that Sir Paul Condon. commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, had "dug himself into a massive hole" when he refused to admit the existence of institutional racism.

"It is hard to see how he can now

remain as the head of an organisation that will be told to change its ways," he said.

Most fear that life on the streets will change little once the fuss has died down, Daniel McGrory reports

13/10/11/50

Mr Grover said that the challenge now was to ensure that the right steps are taken to change the police culture. "Most black and ethnic groups would agree it will take year : to change this on the streets," he said. The police will have to accept radical changes, like independent supervision of investigations of racist crimes."

Leroy Logan, of the Black Police

Association, joined the call for radical change.

We feel vindicated because our organisation has made this claim for years. The change depends on leadership now. The police should not be told to change from the outside. It should come from within."

the promises of reform made by the police and the Home Office after Lord Scarman's inquiry into the 1981 Brixton Riots. Then. Lord Scarman refused to accept that "institutional racism" afflicted the

Mr Grover said: "There were training schemes for police, new laws, money spent and fine words and what changed for black and ethnic minorities? Nothing." Lee Jasper, the director of the

black policy think-tank the 1990 Many black leaders pointed to Trust who gave evidence to the Macpherson inquiry, said that the report presented the Government with a "radicalised agenda" for change. "We are very pleased. The report is full-blooded in its critcism and it does reflect, as far as we can see, the broad concerns of the black community," he said.

Mr Jasper repeated his demand

for Sir Paul to resign and said that the Government now must ensure that the report's recommendations became reality.

Bernie Grant, the Labour MP

for Tottenham, who is black, said: "Unless certain steps are taken to ensure that action is taken the report will turn out to be a waste of time. Paul Condon must go. He must either resign or be sacked."

## Ministers to be questioned on leak of report

By ROLAND WATSON, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PAUL BOATENG, the Minister of State in the Home Office. is to be interrogated by the department's senior civil servant as part of an internal inquiry into the leak of the Stephen Lawrence report.

Two other Home Office ministers are also likely to be included in the questioning after Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, announced the inquiry to the Commons.

Lord Williams of Mostyn, the Minister of State in the Lords, and Kate Hoey, the junior minister with responsibilities for the Metropolitan Police, are also believed to have seen the report, although the Home Office refused to confirm their involvement.

David Omand, the Home Office Permanent Secretary. will also speak to the small number of senior civil servants who were among the tightly drawn group to receive

Mr Straw was accused of leaving the finger of suspicion hanging over his colleagues yesterday after he refused to answer questions about their involvement. The Home Secretary told the Commons he had nothing personally to do with the leaking of the report to The Sunday Telegraph. But he declined repeatedly to say how many or which of his colleagues had been included in

the circulation of the report. He also ducked a question about whether they would be sacked if found to be the source of the leak.

Home Office sources said afterwards that Mr Straw had not asked his colleagues if they had been involved.

Michael Ancram, the Tory chairman, pounced on Mr Straw's omissions and called his comments "a Whitehall version of 'I'm all right, Jack' ". Mr Ancram said: "He failed

to give any assurances about his team of ministers. Judging by his answers. Mr Straw is not sure that his ministers are innocent of leaking this important report. He leaves a cloud of suspicion hanging over their conduct."

The Home Office said last night that a "very exacting regime" had been set up to try to prevent a leak when a copy of Sir William Macpherson of Cluny's report arrived in the Home Office at 5.50pm on Monday.

It is believed fewer than ten numbered copies were made to be circulated among senior civil servants and ministers. Those also likely to have handled the report include John Lyon, director of police policy, and Ken Sutton. Mr Straw's principal private secretary.

Apart from those inside the Home Office's headquarters

only others who would have been aware of its contents would have been the inquiry team itself. They included Tom Cook, the repred deputy chief constable of West Yorkshire police force; the Rt Rev Dr John Sentamu, the Bishop of Stepney: and Dr Richard Stone, chairman of the Jewish council for racial equality. The inquiry secretary is Stephen Well, a civil servant seconded from the Home Office.

Less than 48 hours after the report entered the Home Office, it had been leaked. On Wednesday, Tom Baldwin, the political editor of The Sunday Telegraph, was ushered into a "darkened room" and given little more than half an hour with the full 350-page report. On Friday he was given a similar amount of time by the source in the same circum-

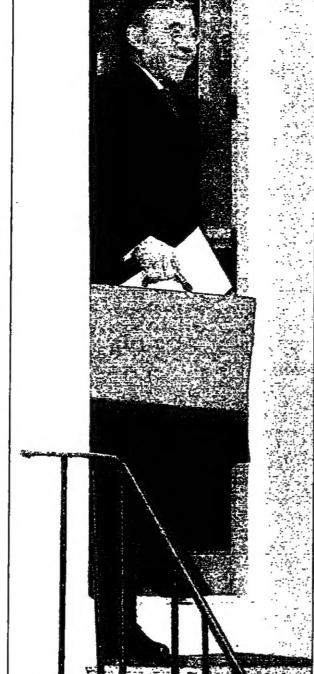
The revelation counters the suggestion from some MPs that the leak had been selective and designed to damage Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner. Home Office sources said that despite the precautions taken, it was impossible to say

how many copies of the origi-

nal document had been made

inside the department.

Gordon Nardell, page 43



Jack Straw leaving his home for the Commons yesterday

## In a way it's my fault, says black policeman

LONDON'S first black police officer, who joined the force on the same day as Sir Paul Condon, said yesterday that he feels partly responsible for the failed investigation into the death of Stephen Lawrence. Norwell Roberts, awarded

the Queen's Police Medal, believes that if he had spoken out about the racism directed at him throughout his 30-year career with the Metropolitan Police then some of the recommendations of Sir William Macpherson of Cluny's report would have been in place at the time of the murder and as a result the killers would have been brought to justice.

"In a funny way I do feel responsible for the failed investigation into Stephen's death be-cause instead of lying and keeping quiet maybe I should have said something and things would be different now," he said. "I joined the pol-ice force in 1967 but the first time I spoke up about racism was in 1985. Unfortunately I have been vindicated but at the time people never took any notice of what I was saying until the death of poor Stephen.

"For that I am very sorry. The problem of racism in the police could have been seen much earlier if I had said something earlier and the recommendations could already be in place. This could have led to a different attitude from the police and maybe they would have investigated with

"In a way it is my own fault because I kept it all to myself. I used to tell people everything was fine - I was lying, stom-



Norwell Roberts, second left, and Sir Paul second right

aching everything that happened because that was the only way I knew how to deal with it. Anyway, there was no one to help me."

When he told his boss that a police car had driven past him as he stood outside Covent Garden's Royal Opera House and an occupant had screamed racist abuse at him he was told: "What do you expect me to do?"

The former detective sergeant believes that Sir Paul genuinely cares about what is happening within the force but that maybe he did not take the situation seriously enough at the beginning. "When peo-ple began saying that officers investigating the murder were not doing enough and his officers were saying they were doing all they could I do not know if he made sure people were doing the right thing." Mr Roberts said.

mature and incomplete ac-

"I don't think he took the crit-icism seriously exorgh at the

outset. It may be that officers told him not to worry and they were on top of it.

The whole thing has proved to be an embarrassment to the police force. It is sad for them and for the public who should have confidence in the police.

"There is nothing I could have done while an officer the early days to change people's attitudes but maybe I should have tried. I don't know if I could have changed the racist views of the alleged killers but it would have made racism more of an issue in the

police force."

Asked whether he should have been consulted by the Lawrence inquiry, he said: "I had absolutely nothing to do with the investigation and no one asked me to contribute to the inquiry: not the police, not the Lawrence family, not the inquiry chairman. I may have had something to offer but people thought I didn't."

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## Press freedom is not at risk WHEN politicians and the

press get worked up into a state of furious outrage, it is usually bogus. The leak of parts of the Macpherson report into the murder of Stephen Lawrence raises many serious issues, but freedom of the press is not one of

Jack Straw made a political mistake on Saturday, but the error was understandable and not heinous. If that was not apparent before yesterday's exchanges on the floor of the Commons, it was afterwards. Gerald Kaufman put the row into its proper context by arguing that "two legitimate positions" were in conflict - that of the press, in this case The Sunday Telegraph, wanting to print important news it had discovered, and that of the Home Secretary wanting to protect the publication of the report.

There was a lot of huffing and puffing about ensuring that such reports are first revealed to Parliament. But this convention is more breached

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

most of his colleagues - in part because he spends more time in the House. But this is a poor point for ministers to make, given their generally poor record on leaking/briefing before making announcements to the Commons — a point Sir Norman Fowler and other Tory MPs repeatedly, and reasonably, made.

Mr Straw's real point was that the Macpherson report is special case, different in kind from the normal run of White Papers. Unlike the latter. the Government itself could not be "embarassed in any way by the contents being revealed". Ministers would he said, never resort to an injunction to stop publication of a White Paper or document which did not have nationalsecurity implication

#### count of its findings being revealed than it would be for the judgment of a court of law to be disclosed in this way". That is putting it rather strongly,

but there are obviously special sensitivities in this case, both for the Lawrence family and the police. But did such unusual circumstances justify the injunction? This was anyway only seeking to stop disclosure for a few days, so it was in no way comparable with the indefi-

nite ban on Spycatcher. Nonetheless, this still conflicts with the right of the press to publish when it wishes to do so. subject to only very limited and special constraints. In the event, as often happens, the law is seldom as fast-moving as the press and the news was out, at least to some readers,

So Mr Straw looked both heavy-handed and dumsy and may now have a rougher ride in the press. This fuss will soon be forgot-

ten. The real worry ahead of Wednesday's statement is whether indignation will swamp judgment. The Metropolitan Police need to do a lot to change attitudes towards ethnic minorities, as most senior officers now well understand. But there is a serious risk that charges of "perni-cious and institutionalised racism" will both produce a victim culture among young blacks and a defensive passivity among the police. That would be true racism.

What Londoners want is an active police force that pursues, and deters, crime regardless of the colour of the perpe trator and the victim.

te the protests of Madam eaker. Mr Straw himself is are punctilious about the hts of the Commons than	report was the result of a judi- cial inquiry so, according to Mr Straw, "it would be no more acceptable to have a pre-	
Vation (	of Islam	
man co	nvicted	7
By A Corre	SPONDENT	

leagues had to use CS gas to

A NATION of Islam member is likely to escape jail after being found guilty yesterday of attacking a police officer at the Stephen Lawrence inquiry. Rasaki Yesufu-Muhammad

was said to have been part of a "baying mob" that tried to storm the crowded hearing the day five men suspected of the reenager's killing were due to give evidence.

The 29-year-old care worker - wearing the black Islamic organisation's trademark dark suit, white shirt and red bow tie at the time - twice kneed PC Stephen Dukamp in the face during an "explosion of violence" last June.

sentencing was adjourned and the judge told the defence counsel: "What I have in mind is a community service order." The constable, whose col-

After he was found guilty.

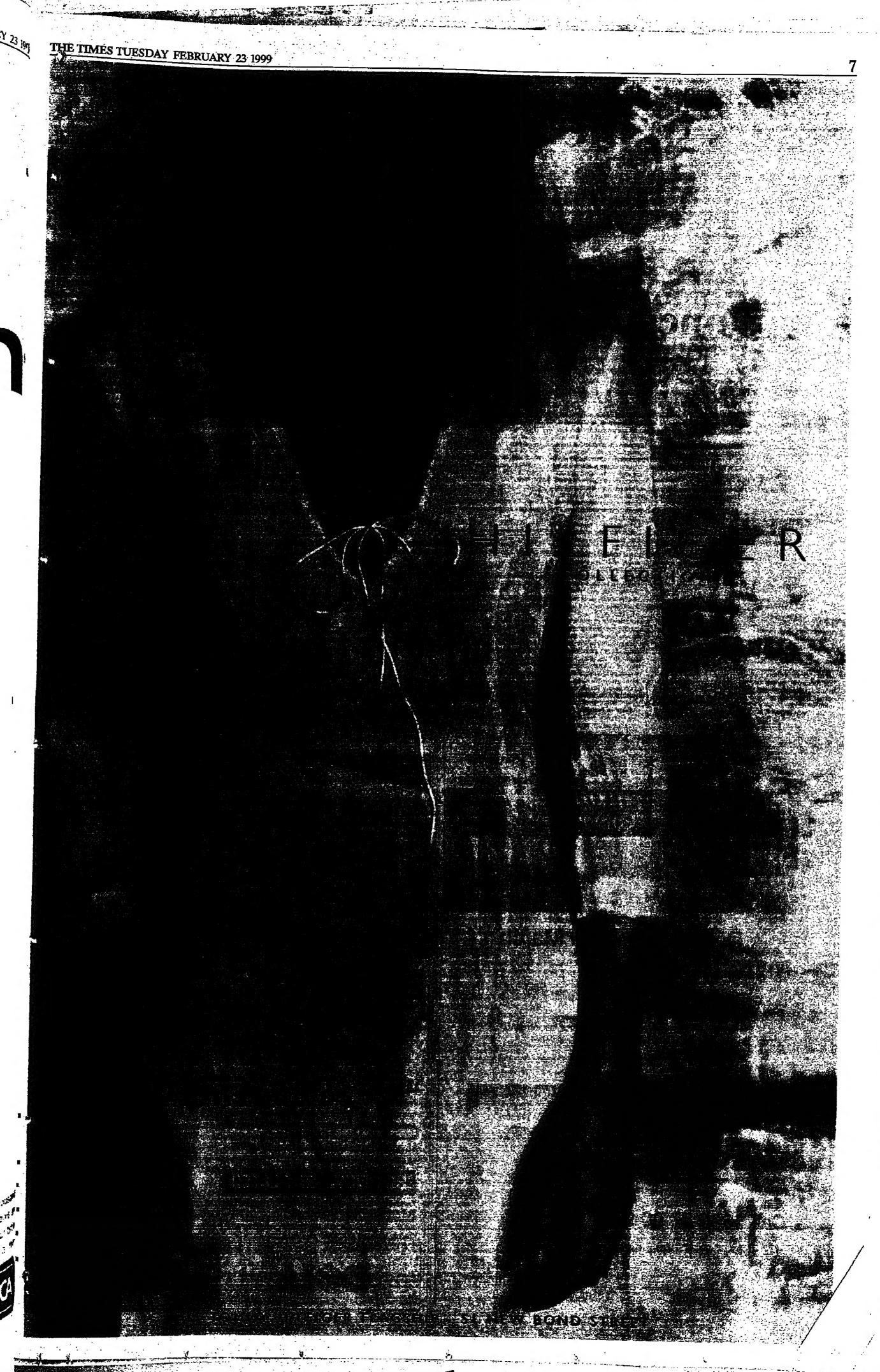
control the violence, said he had been "extremely scared" and had ended up "black and

Clutching a copy of the Koran as he stood in the dock at London's Southwark Crown Court. Yesufu-Muhammad, a politics graduate, showed no reaction when the foreman of the jury announced the 11 to one majority guilty verdict to one count of affray.

Adjourning the case for three weeks for reports. Judge Jeffrey Rucker told defence counsel Matthew Ryder: "In the extremely fraught atmosphere of that hearing that gave rise to this case, everything that has happened since and is still happening, it seems to me that it would be wrong to raise the temperature at all if it is possible to avoid it."

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## Skiers in the dock 'for 999 call'

"Last in 1:50

French prosecutor

aims to make an example of men who got lost, reports Adam Sage

THREE British businessmen prosecuted by the French au-thorities for skiing off piste in the Alps claimed yesterday that they had been made scapegoats to calm public anger after a series of tragedies in the Alps.

Their claim came after Rene Ternoy, the State prosecutor, called for the three men to be fined Fr5,000 (about £540) each and be given three-month suspended prison sen-

At a highly publicised hearing in Albertville in the French Alps. M Ternoy said: "These British subjects are accused of almost dragging the rescue teams to their death by skiing on a slope that had been closed by the mayor. They are extremely lucky to be alive."

Guy MacBride, 37, from Windsor, Jonathan Fairley, 38, from Marlow, and Paul Crowther, 34. from Willesden. North London, deny the charges of endangering lives through negligence on February 9 in Val-d'Isère.

They told the court that they stumbled on to a forbidden Olympic piste by accident in poor weather and called for help using a mobile telephone when they realised that they were in difficulty. "Basically, what happened

is that we got lost, and now we are being prosecuted for making a 999 call." Mr Crowther said after yesterday's hearing. "I'm not sure that would happen in the UK. To say the least, we're surprised at the way things have worked out. It all feels very bad. We are three respected businessmen and family men and we are not the sorts to go deliberately risking our lives on a slope that has been closed because it is too dangerous. I think that

we are being scapegoated."

He pointed out that neither the three defendants nor any of their rescuers had been hurt in the incident.

The hearing was marked by "make an example" of the



Paul Crowther, left, Guy MacBride and Jonathan Fairley, "three gentlemen straight out of the City", appearing in court to face charges of endangering lives through negligence

three as part of an effort by the French authorities to stamp out "irresponsibility" in the Alps. Feelings have been running high in France after a series of avalanches in resorts provoked by skiers who ignored safety warnings in the search for excitement. More than 20 people, including at least six Britons, have died in the Alps

Yesterday rescuers were continuing the hunt for three French walkers who have been lost in the mountains above Albertville for a week. The three have a mobile phone but are unable to guide rescuers to them because they have no idea where they are. French judicial authorities hope that publicised prosec-

this year.



utions will help to cut the alpine death rate. But the defence lawyer, Maurice Bodecher, said that the three defendants did not fit the off-piste sterectype of reckless youngsters.

Mr Fairley, a father of two. earns about £36,000 a year as European sales manager for a medical equipment firm. Mr Crowther, who is unmarried. has earnings of about £25,000 a year as a sales manager for a firm in the same business. Mr McBride, a father of two. earns about £25,000 as sales and marketing manager for a tea importer. All three ap-peared in court yesterday in smart dark pin-striped suits, sombre ties and short hair. These three gentlemen have come straight out of the City." M Bodecher said. "They do not have the style of those who go off-piste. They are responsi-

ble and down to earth." Questioned by the presiding judge. Jean Pierre Beroud, the three said that they were average skiers who were on a week's holiday with 18 friends. With snow swirling around them and visibility down to a yard, they mistakenly took a downhill run used in the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville that had been closed bad weather. About 250 me- give judgment on March 29. were venturing cautiously off

tres down the slope "we realised we were in danger and we discussed what to do". Mr Crowther told the court. "We tried to walk up again but we couldn'r."

Mr Fairley telephoned for help, prompting a rescue operation. Mountain rescue teams guided the three down by shouting instructions through a loud hailer from a ski lift. It took the three men 24 hours wading through deep snow to reach safety, the court was

Mr Fairley said: "The rescuers said they would not come and get us. We had to come down on our own. We had no intention of going down that slope so we had no idea of the risks involved." The three defendants have

already paid back the £350 cost of the rescue operation. M Ternoy said that the defendants must have known that the slope had been closed and survived only as a result of the rescuers whose lives had been out at risk.

"Do not accuse me of discrimination," M Ternoy said. "In January I had three French people condemned at this court for the same

## Death is never far away even on gentle slopes

Charles Bremner tells of avalanche on 'green' piste

IT IS easy to assume that skiers who die in accidents are foolhardy types who ignore warnings and venture off piste. But amid the freak weather of this month. I have been given a chilling glimpse of how easily disaster can strike on the most gentle of ski

slopes.

The little resort of Metabief, in the French Jura. has been enjoying its best snow cover for years. The weather had turned mild and it was snowing wet flakes last Thursday morning as I vied for space on the slopes with crowds of French families on their halfterm break

There had been talk of the avalanches in the Alps but there were no local warnings and the well-tended runs of the Most d'Or area were all open. To avoid the crowds.

piste onto the virgin snow through the pine trees.

In the late morning, on my way back up on a chair-lift through the Piquemiette run, I watched a gaggle of young snowboarders set off a slide in a steep gully, off piste right be-neath the lift. They whooped with delight, oblivious to danger, as they skidded down with the moving snow.

At the same time, a few hundred yards away, a deep layer of snow suddenly peeled off an outcrop of rock above a stretch of "green" piste, the gentlest category of run. I did not see it, but by the time I reached the top, word was out. The snow had slid down into a gully onto half a dozen skiers on the green trail. Most extracted themselves, however, one 20-year-old woman. on a day out from a nearby

was no sense of alarm. The skiing carried on for another two hours and it was later reported that it had taken 45 minutes before the alert was given to the gendarmerie, with their

dogs and search equipment. Later in the afternoon the main lifts were halted and all hands were assembled to join the search for the woman and two boys who had also gone

The boys later turned up. The woman was found after three hours under the snow. She died in hospital after suffering extreme hypothermia. Her distraught fiance ap-peared on television threatening to sue the authorities for failing to prevent the avalanche

Local instructors blamed freak conditions and the death did nothing to stop the

#### Two die as snow engulfs car and chalets

TWO people were found dead in a car and at least 16 are missing after avalanches swept Switzerland, Austria and Finland yesterday.

Harsh weather also trapped thousands of tourists and threatened floods

balloomists across Western Europe. in Switzerland, rescue teams found two young people dead in their car after nine chalets were swept away by avalanches that struck Villa and Le Sage in the southern canton of Valais late on Sunday. Eight people are missing. The heavy snowfalls created transport chaos, with jest one rail track operating on the Berne to Fribourg line.

Then their const

Avalanches also swept eastern Switzerland, blocking roads and forcing the closure until Thursday of the Gotthard tunnel, the main north-south route be-tween Switzerland. Italy

and Germany.

Two people were missing after an avalanche hit a restaurant in the Austrian Alps yesterday, police said. Search efforts were hampered by severe weather conditions. Up to 30,000 tour-ists were blocked in ski resorts in western Austria due to heavy snowfalls, with maximum avalanche warnings issued.

On Saturday, some 100 tourists, including Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands and Princess Caroline & Monaco, were flown to safe ty by helicopter from the ski resort of Lech.

Eight people were miss-ing after being swept away by an avalanche in northern Finland, police said.

T 1 . . .

In France, Chamonix was closed off because of the risk of avalanches. In the eastern region of Savoie, three mountain walkers were reported missing in snow-storms. Heavy flooding was reported in northwest Switzerland, Germany and parts of France. The Rhine was expected to reach record levels.



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## IVF couples chosen by postcode

ONE in seven of all British couples seek help for infertility from the NHS, but 80 per cent of them are denied it, according to a report published yesterday.

The survey by the College of Health, an independent research inst-site, shows that IVF treatment on the NHS is becoming increasingly rare and varies widely across Britain. Postcode rationing is widespread because health authorities say that their main priority is the short-term reduction of waiting lists rather than

funding infertility treatment.

The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has estimated that one couple in seven want children but are presented by infertility. dren but are prevented by infertility.

NHS rationing leaves 80% disappointed, Ian Murray reports

Of these only 20 per cent are offered treatment on the NHS and the remainder either have to pay up to £4,000, adopt, or remain childless.

"Where you live still remains the most important deciding factor as to whether you receive funded treat-ment," said Clare Brown, president of the National Infertility Awareness Campaign. "Health authority spend-ing on infertility services continues to be patchy and chaotic and there are

huge differences in waiting times."
On average, authorities last year bought only 10.8 treatment cycles the extraction, fertilisation and re-im-

plantation of individual eggs - per 100,000 head of population, even though a study sponsored by the Department of Health advised them to buy 40 per 100,000. The average is down from 12.7 cycles in 1997, and in some areas the fall has been steeper.

Wales cut funding from 23 cycles to 8.8, and in the South and West the funding level fell from 3.7 cycles to 0.3. Scotland commues to fund more than any other area but last year's level of 21.5 cycles is down from 27.5 in 1997. No IVF treatment is available on the NHS in Northern Ireland. In the London region there are just

under ten cycles per 100,000, down by one cycle. The only region where there has been a significant increase is Oxford and Anglia, where the number of treatment cycles grew over the year from 13.6 to 21.3,

Waiting times also vary greatly. One authority has a waiting time of one to two weeks, while others report delays of up to three years. More than half the authorities have a waiting time from referral to treatment of more than a year and have treatment waiting lists of up to four years.
Eligibility for IVF treatment is be-

coming more uniform, and many au-

the couple already have children. Most authorities will only fund treatment for two cycles, although the chance of conception from one cycle is only 25 per cent.

With most authorities calling for centralised guidelines on provision and funding of IVF, Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is expected to commission a nationwide survey of fertility treatments. The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists is to produce guidelines later in the year on which couples are most likely to benefit from treatment.

> Postcode lottery, page 16 Leading article, page 19

## Umbrella helps balloonists to keep their cool

By CHRIS HAMILTON

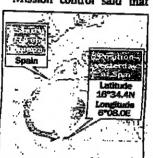
THE British round-the world balloon crew pressed a trusty piece of equipment into use while they clong to the outside of their craft carrying out

Andy Elson and Colin Prescot, the two pilots of the Cable and Wireless balloon, used a black umbreila as a parasol as they worked 8,000ft above the heat of the Sahara desert They were repositioning solar panels on their capsule in a full before they entered the jet stream yesterday.

After nearly six days of being stuck at low levels, slowly drifting south over West Africa, the two men found the right spot to begin an ascent to 24,000ft over Mali. They are now picking up the norththem at up to 100mph towards The jet stream is crucial in

enabling them to travel around China, which has banned the team from entering its airspace.

Mission control said that



the manouevre was "timed to perfection" over Mali as the pilots used the sun's heat, instead of valuable fuel, to expand the balloon and gain

lan Ashpole, the London-based flight director, said: We are extremely happy with the results of this crucial manoeuvre. We have spoken to the pilots, who are happy and relaxed. We couldn't have hoped for this part of the flight to have gone any

The balloon, which took off from southern Spain last Wednesday, is scheduled to arrive in Indian airspace on Friday. From there the next difficult stage will be trying to fol-low a low and slow route around the south of China The crew have already had to head southwest before doubling back on themselves and travelling northeast to avoid

The Beijing authorities' reusal to grant them permission will add seven days to a ourney that has already defeated several teams.

All British balloons were banned from Chinese air space after Richard Branson entered a restricted air corridor during his round-the-world attempt in December. It was a similar refusal by the Chinese that put paid to Mr Elson's last sound the world attempt on board the Breitling Orbiter 2 balloon year. (PA News)



Andy Elson carrying out repairs outside the capsule of his balloon above the Sahara

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#### **Football** disaster memorial agreed

By PAUL WILKINSON

A MEMORIAL to the victims of the 1989 Hillsborough disaster is to be erected at Sheffield

Wednesday's ground.
Until recently the club had avoided discussing the idea with relatives of the 96 victims. As a potential defendant in a possible damages claim by the families, officials felt the issue

might become too sensitive. However, an agreement in favour of a memorial has been reached between Sheffield Wednesday, Liverpool FC and and the Hillsborough Family Support Group. The exact design and position are still being discussed.

The memorial, which the Sheffield club is likely to fund. is expected to be placed in a prominent position by the main entrance, on the south side of the ground.

Liverpool fans were crushed to death in a crowd surge at the Hillsborough Stadium on April 15, 1989, at the start of an FA Cup semi-final against Not-

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

Army's

#### landmine stocks destroyed The Army's stock of anti-per-

sonnel landmines has now been destroyed. In a symbolic gesture, George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, gave deactivated mines to the Brit-ish Red Cross, the Halo Trust, the Mines Advisory Group, Care International and the Imperial War Museum.

Mr Robertson told the char-ities, which campaigned to clear the weapons: "No Brit-ish soldier will ever again lay an anti-personnel mine." The RAF's mines will be de-

stroyed by the end of the year. The Army had about two million anti-personnel land-mines. Mr Robertson said he hoped that their accelerated destruction would send a 'clear and concrete message" to nations that had not signed the Ottawa Treaty, which bans the production, trade and stockpiling of the mines.

#### Charge derailed

A privatised train company has been ordered to drop its surcharge for telephone ticket sales and to refund affected passengers. Great Western Trains was told by Chris Bolt. the Rail Regulator, that the charge breached its licence.

#### Save our souls

Ten people locked in St James's Church, Badsey, Worcestershire, after their meeting ran late were released after one had the idea of ringing SOS in Morse code from the bell tower, which was heard by a passer-by.

#### MoD pays out

Ian Bannister. 29. of Broad-field, West Sussex, a former soldier who claimed he developed schizophrenia after being injured by hand grenades. accepted damages to settle his High Court action against the Ministry of Defence.

#### Searching role

The actress daughter of George Walker, the former Brent Walker tycoon, is to join the cast of EastEnders. Romla Walker, 28, will play a woman looking for her sister, Saskia Duncan, who was killed on Valentine's Day.

#### Pigs abandoned

RSPCA officers have used nuts as bait to capture eight Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs roaming a dense wood at Tip-tree, near Colchester, Essex. More than 20 of the once-popular pets may have been aban-doned in the area.

#### Viking treasure

Archaeologists have made the first find of Viking gold in Britain. A lcm by 5mm ingot was found under a 17th-century cellar floor at the New Millennium Library in Norwich. It is expected to go on show at Norwich's Castle Museum.

Houston, but he made no diag-

nosis. She returned to see him

the following day but again

Five days later she collapsed

with a severe headache and

sickness and another deputis-

ing doctor diagnosed a virus. Miss Greenaway went to her

doctor three more times dur-

ing the next ten days. After the

last visit she was found uncon-

scious and paralysed in a tele-

there was no diagnosis.

#### **GP** pays £700,000 over missed illness

A PREGNANT woman who collapsed after a blood vessel in her brain burst was awarded £700,000 damages yesterday against the GP who failed to find out what was wrong with her despite six examinations in three weeks.

Louise Greenaway, 28, had also been seen by two other doctors before she collapsed. She has been unable to work since and suffers memory loss.

Miss Greenaway, from Plymouth, was five months pregnant with her second child in September 1990 when she called out a locum doctor because she was suffering from blackouts, vomiting, headaches and sensitivity to light.

She had to undergo exten-

sive neurosurgery and it was ten months before she was discharged, during which time her daughter had been born. The settlement was reached without admission of liability The following day she went andapproved by the High twice to see her GP, William

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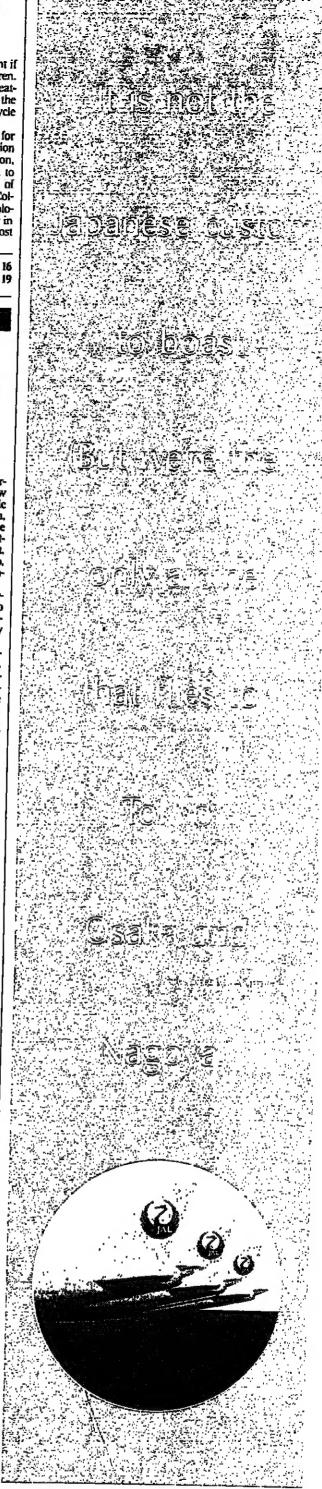
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## Maginnis offers 'wriggle room'

Unionists prepared to allow Sinn Fein leeway on timing of IRA

disarmament, writes Martin Fletcher

A LEADING Unionist moved to break the deadlock in Northern Ireland's peace process yesterday by saying his party was prepared to allow Sinn Fein "wriggle room" on the timing of IRA disarmament. David Trimble's Ulster Un-

ionist Party has until now insisted on a downpayment of weaponry before Sinn Fein could be admitted to government. But Ken Maginnis, the UUP's security spokesman, said that the two could happen concurrently provided there was an agreed and unbreaka-ble timetable for achieving total disarmament by June

This opens the way for a possible compromise whereby neither side is seen to have "won" the showdown over decommissioning. The sort of cast-iron guarantee the UUP would require could be underwritten by General John de Chastelain, head of the international disarmament body, or even President Clinton who

Province's political leaders next month's St Patrick's Day celebrations in Washington. "What we have to achieve is total decommis sioning and a total commit-

ment to deing on a timescale that society can understand; that alleviates the fears of society, and that's definitive. It has to have a start, a continuing process and an end," Mr Maginnis

"Progress has to be by an agreement that is somehow underwritten, where there is absolute certainty," he said. "It is the absolute certainty of achievement, not the methodology, that preoccupies my party." Mr Maginnis appeared to be helping Sinn Fein to surmount this last great hurdle in the peace process, even though he has every reason to detest them. He still vividly remembers the IRA killing the first of his friends and Ulster Defence Regiment colleagues in 1971.

The gunmen came for Den-nis Wilson, a farmer with whom Mr Maginnis had been at school, while he lay in bed with flu. "It was the first reality of how deadly this violence was going to become," said the 61-year-old former teacher who joined the UDR the day it was formed in 1970.

Cormac McCabe, a fellow teacher and UDR company intelligence officer, was next. He was visiting a Co Monaghan hotel with his wife and handicapped daughter when the IRA seized and shot him.

Harold Sinnamon, Mr Maginnis's company ser-geant-major, was killed by a bomb while patrolling. "I remember him saying to me af-ter Cormac McCabe's death: 'You know, Ken, I have a great

fore this trou-We have to find there will not be a family in an opportunity Northern Ireto get beyond pointing guns ty-five years on he is very at each other? close to the

> dered "literally dozens" of Mr Maginnis's friends in the UDR and the police, nearly 200 of his constituents, even former pupils and members of his church.

Mr Maginnis has himself been targeted a dozen times. Surviving had become "a way of life", he said with unconscious irony. For years he has made his movements unpredictable, searched beneath his car and taken all the usual pre-

When Gerry Adams first led



Ken Maginnis, v. hose offer to break the deadlock in the peace process came despite experiences giving him every reason to detest Sinn Fein

Sinn Fein into the Stormont peace talks 17 months ago he publicly labelled them, "unreconstructed murde rers", and still believes their commitment to - and understanding of — democratic politics is skin deep. But he is far from the bigoted, intransiger it Unionist of popular mythology. The only thing he is truly fanatical

He insists he is bound to pursue every contine of securing lasting pea.ca. "I wouldn't be part of the process at all if I did not believe we have to find an opportunity, however irksome and repugnant it may be, for those of us who have been victims or friends of victims, to get beyond the pointing of

guns at each other," he said.

A downpayment of IRA weaponry was essential because "it would indicate that right at the heart of militant republicanism they have crossed the psychological barrier". It would be a "breaking of the mould" and if the IRA sought

would become pariahs as nev-

Mr Maginnis refused to quantify the downpayment required, but said it had to be "meaningful and indicate there can be no turning back". Twenty rifles, for example, would clearly be unacceptable.

The UUP would not require that the weapons be destroyed publicly, as previously suggested. It would accept the word of General de Chastelain that they had been decommissigned. Mr Maginnis accepted

Mr Adams could not deliver IRA disarmament alone, but believed that if Martin McGuinness, Pat Doherty, Martin Ferris and other top republicans began acting as per-suaders the IRA could be

bought round. At present he saw no sign of that happening, and said Sinn Fein's leaders were violating their Good Friday commitment to "use any influence, they may have to achieve the decommissioning of all para-military arms". Mr Maginnis

believes international opinion will eventually force republiccans unequivocally to re-nounce violence, though per-haps not in the immediate fix-ture. When that happened fre would feel obliged to "accorn-modate and integrate them back into society". For now, he still refuses to shake their hands. "I'm not into these superficial gestures," he said. "I have not seen the bar gain

that's worth a handshake, and actual friendship would be very difficult, to put it blur ntly.

## Omagh police question Mackey

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

A REPUBLICAN councilfor from Omagh was last night being interrogated by police investigating the bomb that killed 29 people in the Co Tyrone

people in the Co Tytolic town last August. The RUC arrested Francis Mackey at Omagh's Tyrone and Fermanagh hospital, where he works as a psychiatric nurse, and searched his house. Mr Mackey is chairman of the 32 County Sovereignty Commit-tee whose paramilitary counterparts in the Rea IRA carried out the bomb

Police officers and soldiers arrested three others and searched homes rn a major operation in Sputh Armagh, where the car bomb is believed to have been built.

The committee claimed Mr Mackey's arrest was an attempt to silence republican opposition to the Good Friday agreement. His son was one of 42 people questioned by police in the immediate aftermath of the bomb but subsequently released without charge.
Two other men from

South Armagh were arrested on Sunday. Two of the five men arrested south of the border by the irish police on Sunday



Mackey: one of four men detained by RUC

## Tony's cronies stay at home

MANY life peers appointed by Tony Blair to boost Labour's numbers in the Lords are failing to turn up and vote for the Government. A Times survey shows that more than half of the 55 Labour peers appointed by the Prime Minister since the election have missed more than a third of the votes they could have attended.

One wealthy Labour peer and party donor — the indus-trialist Lord Haskins — has not bothered to vote at all since being raised to the peerage last summer. However, some recent arrivals - such as Baroness Rendell of Babergh, the crime writer, and Lord Alli, creator of Channel Four's The Big Breakfast - have been more regular attenders.

Mr Blair is now planning to appoint another 50 new Labour peers — once their heredi-tary colleagues are gone — to

equalise numbers with Tory life peers. Voting will be much closer in the transitional chamber and Labour will have to rely on peers turning up to wit.)

All but a handful of the I bour appointees were given working peerages. which meant they were supposed to be more active than those given titles in the honours lists.

The new life peers make up almost a third of Labour's 176-strong team and their votes are crucial. The Government has already staffered 42 defeats this Parliament, more than was suffered by the To-ries in any compar able period in their last term of office.

Although Labreur almost al-ways blames Tory heredi-taries for the de'leats, several of

Blair's new life peers are failing to turn up and vote, writes James Landale

the divisions could have been won if the new life peers had turned up. Many of Labour's veteran life peers are elderly and unable to vote often.

The Labour can do little to persuade peers to vote. Although the peers are told very clearly when appointed that they must be prepared to put in the hours, many of them have full-time jobs outside Par-liament. Few are willing to give up scarce free evenings to hang around the Lords wait-

The conclusions come from an analysis of voting records during the first 18-month ses-sion of the current Parliament. from May 1997 to November 1998, during which 179 divisions took place. Peers have

new session of Parliament began with the Queen's Speech last October.

The analysis does not include six new Labour peers. such as the former ministers Lord Shore of Stepney and Lord Hattersley, who were appointed by John Major in the former Prime Minister's dissolution honours list.

The worst attender. Lord Haskins, chairman of Northern Foods, has not voted in any of the 25 divisions since he was made a working peer last summer. He was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Lord Simpson of Dunkeld. chief executive of electronics giant GEC, has voted just six times out of a possible 160 divisions since his ennoblement in voted only four times since the August 1997. He said he regret-

ted his absence but insisted that his work at GEC had to come first. "If you are running one of the biggest companies in the UK, it takes time. But it is my intention to spend more time in the Lords the moment

Lord Sheppard of Liverpool. the former Bishop who was ennobled at the end of 1997 and sits on the Labour benches, has voted only six times out of a possible 107. Lord Sainsbury of Turville, the Science Minister and Labour donor, has voted only 38 times out of a possible 165.

things settle down here."

Lord Brookman, the retiring general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, has voted just four times out of a possible 16 divilast summer. Lord Renwick of Clifton, the former Ambassador to the United States, has voted only 43 times out of a possible 165 divisions — he has a full-time job at the merchant

bank Flemings.
The best attender is Lord Sawyer, the former Labour Party general secretary, who has missed only two votes since being raised to the peer-

age last summer. Middle-rank attenders include Lord Puttnam, the film producer, who has voted 87 times out of 163 divisions, and Lord Bragg, the author and presenter, who has voted 12 times out of a possible 25,

Mr Blair has already creat ed 101 new peers in only 18 months of government, a rate of paironage unmatched by any other Prime Minister. Margaret Thatcher created

Northern Foods and Labour Lord Simpson of Dunkeld. chief executive of GEC ... 3.7 Lord Sheppard of Liver-donor 23 Lord Brookman, outgoing general secretion of the Iron and Steel Trapies Confedera-Lord Remainsk of Clifton,

former ambiessador to the US 26.1 Baroness Scotland of Asthal, right flying QC...28.2 Lord Levy, publisher and La-bour funderaiser......33.5 Lord Warr ier, tormer adviser Lord Birooke of Alverthorpia, former general secretary of the Public Servic-

es Tax jand Commerce Un-

general secretary......93-6 Lord Ahmed, a business velopment manager and Yorkshire Labour party gran-Baroness Goudie, long-

standing Labour member and independent public affairs consultant......91.3 Lord Bach, barrister and Labour apparatchik ......91.3 Lord Clarke of Hampstead,

former deputy general secretary of Union of Postal Workergh, crime writer......88.3 Lord Hunt of Kings Heath,

Lord Alli, managing director of Planet 24 Productions Ltd Lord Hughes of Woodside, former Labour MP .......85.2 Lord Falconer of Thoroton, Minister of State at Cabinel



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## Wakeham says public must have say on Lords reform

BY JAMES LANDALE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Royal Commission on Reform of the House of Lords looks set to take evidence in public despite government fears that the move will prompt unnecessary delays.

Lord Wakeham, the commission chairman, told peers yesterday that he wanted his i2-strong body to seek the "widest possible range of views" in written and oral evidence "as well as in public hearings". The former Tory Cabinet minister admitted that such a decision was technically for the commission which meets for the first time

on March I. But he insisted: "I would want to be as open and forthcoming as possible. I expect the commission's work to take place in the context of a vigorous public debate."

The announcement came during the first session of a marathon two-day debate into the Government's White Paper on Lords reform which was published in January. More than 100 peers have put their names down to speak in the debates which are expected to last late into the night. Lord Wakeham's remarks

will dismay some ministers

who privately believe that pub-



hold public hearings

lic hearings would waste precious time. The Government has set the commission an unprecedented deadline of publishing its report before the end of the year.

Baroness Jay of Paddington, the Leader of the House of Lords, told peers that this was a "demanding schedule". But speaking before Lord Wakeham, she argued that the issues had been extensively discussed for more than 100

These issues are intellectually and politically challenging but we know what they are and we know what are the options for addressing them." she said. "There is no need for

a long period of primary re-search. The Royal Commission can move almost immedi-

Lord Wakeham, speaking publicly for the first time since his appointment last month. said he had the "greatest respect" for the contribution which the current House had made to the nation.

"I am conscious of the service given by your Lordships by whatever route we have arrived here," he told peers.
"The task of the Royal Commission in the new circumstances of today is to propose a way forward, taking what is good in the present arrangements and to make sugges-tions for its future."

He added that the Government was currently introducing "a more profound set of constitutional changes" than at any other time this century. "One of the challenges facing the Royal Commission is to find a way for this House to play a distinct and significant role, complementary to that of the Commons, within the new constitutional arrangements."

Lord Strathcivde, the Tory leader in the Lords, urged peers to vote today for a symbolic amendment arguing against a cut in the powers of the second chamber. The amendment also demanded that the Lords kept its inde-pendence and ability to scrutinise legislation and hold the executive to account. He said: "Parliament is the

vessel in which the liberties of

the people are cradled and protected. Shatter that vessel. weaken that protection and the ability of the ordinary person to stand up against all the petty tyrannies of the executive will be reduced." Lord Strathclyde said the Lords should be "strong and

independent minded" and a chamber that was "not a sime. ple rubber stamp, but one tha t could hold the executive to at > count". Lord Rodgers of Quarty Bank, the Liberal Democrat Lords leader, said his pairty was "very sympathetic" to-

ward the Tory amendment but would not back it. Lord Denham, the former Tory Chief Whip, attacks ed the Government's "piece meal" proposals but also cri neised his own party's "inertia." in its approach towards refer nn.

The Bishop of Wirichester backed Lord Stray helyde's amendment and insisted that a reformed House of Lords should have "comparable powers" to the existing cham-





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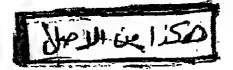
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FRESH fighting in Kosovo dis-placed more than 4,000 ethnic Albanian civilians yesterday as Serb special police and army units backed by tanks and artillery clashed with separatist guerrillas of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) about 20 miles north of the capital.

Serb troops and armoured columns pushed westwards out of Vucirm, along the strategic Pristina to Mitrovica highway shortly after dawn, leaving Western observers from the Kosovo Verification Mission stranded at a checkpoint with the implausible explanation that the units were "going on exercise".

They moved last through the ethnic Albanian villages of Stiturica and Doljak, having shelled them first, before encountering heavier KLA opposition. Three other villages were later hit.

infantry clashes and shellfire lasted throughout the morning before the Serbs withdrew, leaving the landscape a grimly familiar vista of smoul-dering houses crisscrossed with columns of miserable

"You see? They cannot interrupt the war in Rambouillet, it **Anthony Loyd** in Stitarica sees civilian

misery as KLA claims a victory

shelled. He was clinging to the side of a cart at the head of a column of about 400 ashenfaced women and children. They were escaping through the mud and slush of the winter war to an uncertain future in Mitrovica.

In Stitarica, Sabri Pllana, a 40-year-old Albanian, hid in the cellar with two of his family as Serb special police torched his home. They came



here at about ten o'clock," he said among the smouldering ruins. "I suddenly heard tank fire then saw the fields full of soldiers and police. There was shooting everywhere, so I hid with my cousins. They burned part of my house and destroyed everything else.

work it'll get even worse," he added, walking through a gar-den littered with smashed glass and the looted belongings that the Serbs threw out of the windows. "I didn't do anything to anyone, and look what has happened. It is a taste of what is to come."

On a high plateau west of Stitarica, the KLA were celebrating victory. Dozens of fighters, laden with weaponry, faces green and black with warpaint, regrouped from their clashes under the auspices of their zone commander, Rahman Rama.

The Serbs encircled us with tanks on the ridgelines, then pushed in with their infantry." he said. "We fought them for three hours and forced them to withdraw before they had even got near our positions. Don't cry for us this day."

For the Albanians who fled

their homes, many of whom

were in tears, the initial offi-

ferred to the offensive as an exercise — a frequently-used ploy — produced little reaction but rage. They say they are having their military exercises, then go out on exercise and attack people and blow up their homes," said Bejtullah Meholli in Stitarica. He was

waiting for news of three of his insecure. This is something cousins who had been seized that shows this regime knows by Serb police two hours earlinothing but violence." er. 'They are doing this to a

Later, the Serb explanation miserable people. We have for the attack changed. A ponothing, and they attack us lice convoy had been amwith no reason. It's about the bushed outside Vucitrn, the tenth time this area has been new account said, and Serb attacked in a year. I feel very

KLA units through the villages. It is not inconceivable that this was the truth. The KLA.

more confident by the day, has been pushing forward along the Mitrovica to Pristina road, and the presence of police

29, an ethnic Albanian with a reputation as a fighter, not a politician, has been named overall commander of the KLA, an Albanian-language daily newspaper reported.



Fluter Pllana, 18, weeps outside her uncle's smouldering home in Stitarica which was destroyed yesterday when Serbian forces raided the village

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#### Nato unsure of next move if talks end in stalemate

By Michael Evans, defence editor

NATO was bracing itself yes-terday for an inconclusive end to the Kosovo peace talks at Rambouillet, making it impos-sible to go ahead either with airstrikes against Serbia or with the deployment of an alliance peacekeeping force in

the Yugoslav province. The planning for both military options is complete, but Nato diplomats admitted that the worst outcome from the talks would be a partial agreement by both sides which left unresolved the role that alliance troops would play in implementing a settlement.

With Serb and ethnic Albanian delegations refusing to give way on key issues, some Nato diplomats said they felt that the airstrike option was now more likely than the deployment of troops to Kosovo.

However, Javier Solana, Nato Secretary-General, who already has the "technical" authority to order airstrikes. would need to consult President Clinton and every European leader before taking such action, alliance diplomatic sources said.

One senior Nato diplomatic source said that even if both sides refused to sign a full peace settlement, provided it could be shown that Belgrade was principally responsible. against Serbian targets would be justified. For this argument to be approved, the "big four" in the alliance — the US, Britain, France and Germany -

#### Conference on

edge of collapse Rambouillet: The peace talks were near collapse last night as serious rifts surfaced within the Albanian delegation, whose KLA representative refused to drop demands for a referendum on independence (Tom Walker writes).

would have to agree in order to carry the other Nato mem-

The Nato sources said that even if there was consensus for airstrikes, there would be a difference of view about the scale of attacks. While Washington appeared to want allout air raids on multiple limited strike using only cruise missiles, at least in the initial stages.

Nato's North Atlantic Council is to meet today but, even it the final deadline at Rambouillet passes without a successful outcome, there is no expectation that the alliance will order immediate airstrikes. The sources said that Señor Solana would need at least two days to consult all the Nato leaders.

The only positive aspect arising from the extended talks at Rambouillet is that Nato has had slightly longer to prepare for the possibility of a peacekeeping operation in Kosovo.

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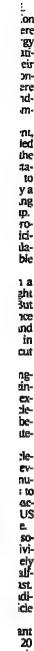
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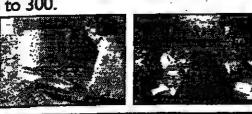
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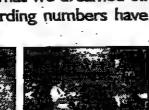


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the Union plans its CAP reform workers included a handful of

British farmers gathered be-hind a solitary Union Jack and led by Ben Gill of the National As French, Italian and Belgian farmers detonated their traditional fireworks, Mr Gill set out the moderate position of British farmers. "We do accept that reforms are necessary, but we must do them in

LINKS

agricultural land are hit," he said.

His words contrasted with apocalyptic language from the French, Spanish and others who were predicting civil mayhem if their governments acquiesced in a reform that is due for the first time to cut the cash flow that takes up half the EU's annual budget. Samer murders farmers "

said one banner, referring to Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission. "CAP is the Titanic of the peasants", said another. Standing in a squall of sleet, one central France beef farmer said: "We will never accept Americanstyle agriculture in Europe."

While the farmers vented their wrath, ministers girded themselves for one of their toughest negotiations. Though there is universal acceptance of the need to rein in farm spending, wide differences



Farmers run with firecrackers during protests in Brussels yesterday to demonstrate their anger at moves to slash subsidies under the common agricultural policy

France playing the role of the most recalcitrant, followed by Spain. For the first time, France and Germany are at oggerheads in the effort to find ways of halting the endless expansion of largesse to a sector that accounts for only 3 per cent of EU income. Germany, which holds the

farm aid to governments. This so-called "co-financing" would rotating EU presidency and is help to satisfy Germany's denow run by a less farm-friendmand for a big cut in its annuiv Social Democrat Governal £8 billion net contribution to ment, last night tabled a pro-

posal for compromise aimed age is complex because it is the at achieving cuts of up to biggest element in the wider ef-30 per cent in guaranteed food fort to reform all EU spending prices. Bonn has enraged for the next six years. Paris with its determination to Tony Blair and other EU cling to a scheme, accepted by most other states, for handing responsibility for part of the

leaders are to start tackling the budget reform at a summit in Bonn on Friday, with a March 26 deadline for reaching a deal. Britain will have to fight hard to retain its special rebate, designed in 1984 to bal-ance Britain's low income

#### Russians drink to their red nose day

FROM ANNA BLUNDY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yellsin distributed awards and praise to senior military men and security chiefs at a Kremlin ceremony yesterday to mark Defenders

of the Fatherland Day. The ceremony was held on the eve of the favourite national holiday of all self-respecting Russian males. A festival once known as Red Army Day. February 23 has long been a once-yearly excuse for women to give presents and for men to drink.

Once a source of great pride, the Russian Army has fallen on hard times, amid a constant catalogue of abuse of conscripts, suicides and accidents. The Army can now barely feed itself. Over the past year, 14 generals have received jail sentences for corrupand 16 still face charges. But the holiday is still taken extremely seriously by the military.

And, we ask, what do men like? "Vodka," says Lyudmilla Klyzhenko, a

A favourite Red Army Day joke is: "Do not tease the drunkard about his red nose, for it is the same colour as our red flag."

Andrei Pionkovsky, a political analyst, has created a present wish-list for ex-servicemen: for Boris Yeltsin, the ability to play tennis one last time; for Yevgeni Primakov, the Prime Minister, an improved relationship with the press for General Aleksandr Lebed, a cool head on his shoulders; for Yuri Luzhkov, Mayor of Moscow, Sevastopol; and for Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist leader, the ability to become President without democratic

#### A HAPPY CHILD, A BETTER **EDUCATION, READ HOW**

40,000, in contrast to the police estimate of about 30,000.

ing a five-day meeting to re-vamp the EU's £30 billion an-

nual farm budget, were left in peace as the police channelled

marchers through the desert-

ed streets of the district that is

home to the EU's institutions.

Shops were closed, traffic was

stopped and tens of thousands

of EU civil servants staved at

home for the day, turning the

The protesters, including

Bavarians, Danish dairy farm-

ers and belligerent French

peasants, were all intent on

conveying their fury and

anguish over reforms that

they say will put tens of thous-

area into a chost town.

Agriculture ministers, start-



THE European Union area of

Brussels seemed like a war zone yesterday as up to 40,000

farmers from all the Union's

member states protested against plans for the biggest re-

form in the common agricul-

tural policy since the subsidy

system was launched in 1962.

To the din of police helicop-ters and exploding fireworks

and rocket flares, the French-

led army of farmers was held

gian riot police, equipped with

oatons, teargas, water cannon

and two armoured cars. Ten

police officers were slightly in-

ured and 12 protesters were ar-

ested in skirmishes with the

police, the scale of whose oper-

ation was deemed by the farm-

ers to amount to provocation.

about 25,000, dominated the

march. The next biggest con-tingent was of 11,000 Ger-

French farmers, numbering





Farmers clash with riot police over harbed wire during yesterday's skirmishes in Brussels that left ten officers injured

Frantic farmers in

battle for EU cash

Charles Bremner in Brussels

watches 40,000 vent their fury as

Farmers' Union.

an organised way that does

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## Jordan's King sacks senior army officers

JORDAN'S new ruler, King Abdullah II, has flexed his political muscle for the first time since the death of his father, King Hussein. He ordered four senior generals to retire in a sweeping reshuffle of the

western diplomatic sources said that the decision of the 37-year-old monarch to act while the official 40-day mourning period for the late King was still under way was indicative of his determination to shore up his strong support inside the armed forces, the bedrock of the ruling Hashemite dynasty,

The important points about this action by the new King are its timing and the fact that he will be installing his own loyalists in the positions that are being vacated by men who have all reached the retirement age of 60," one

envoy said.
The King's move came days
after reports that leaflets had been circulated in parts of the strategic desert kingdom expressing support for the deposed Crown Prince Hassan. 51, the new King's uncle, who was dumped by King Hussein in one of his last executive acts before succumbing to lymphat-

Yesterday's move coincided

Abdullah has acted to ensure military loyalty,

Christopher Walker writes

Prince Hassan had been appointed to continue as head of Jordan's Higher Council of Science and Technology and publication of praise by King Abdullah for his efforts "in building national institutions" since being appointed Crown Prince in 1965.

Jordanian sources said that the new King was moving to ensure family unity by flattering Prince Hassan and securing him a future advisory role, while at the same time ensuring that his own loyalists were in control of the key army positions which could be used by

anyone attempting a coup.

Jordanian officials said that the most senior army officer to be sent into retirement was Major-General Tahseen Shurdum, who had been tipped to become Joint Chief of Staff of the armed forces.

At the time of his removal. Yesterday's move coincided he had been commander of yamin Netanyahu, the Israeli with an announcement that ground forces within the Prime Minister. (AFP)

100,000-strong military for nearly a decade.

General Shurdum, a high-

profile figure who has close ties with his Western and Israeli peers, had played a key role in negotiations over the de-marcation of Jordan's borders with Israel during the talks leading to the 1994 peace treaty which the new King has pledged to uphold but which is unpopular with most ordinary Jordanians.

The other military chiefs to be sent into retirement were Eid Rweidan, head of military intelligence, Hamzeh al-Azb, head of personnel, and Mohammed Abbadi, the head of administration.

Significant in his absence from the reshuffle was Field Marshal Abdul-Hafez al-Kaabneh, whom Prince Hassan had tried earlier to dismiss, but who stays on in his crucial post as Joint Chief of Staff of the armed forces. DJerusalem: An offer to cre-

ate a \$60 million (£37 million) fund to compensate Norwegian Jews for property stolen by the Nazis during their wartime occupation of Norway was announced by Kjell Magne Bondevik, the Norwegian Prime Minister, after a meeting in Jerusalem with Bin-



Mark de L'CA

King Abdullah, who has sent senior officers into retirement after reports of support for Prince Hassan, deposed as Crown Prince by King Hussein just before his death

#### WORLD IN BRIEF

#### One dead, 8 hurt in gun rampage

gunman brought terror to the steel city of Wollongong south of here (Roger Maynard writes). The incident happened outside a Vietnamese restaurant. Police, who detained a man for questioning, believe the shooting may have been linked to a gang feud. Witnesses said the gunman walked calmly down the street before opening fire on two men and injuring several bystanders, below. It was the third serious shooting in New South Wales in two days. The people users billed north of Cod. South Wales in two days. Two people were killed north of Sydney on Sunday and a service station attendant was shot dead



#### Germany backtracks

Bonn: Jürgen Trittin, the German Environment Minister, Bonn: Jürgen Thitin, the German Environment Minister, has dropped a proposed ban on nuclear waste recycling from a draft Bill. The proposed ban drew protests from Paris and London, which threatened to seek compensation if Bonn decided to abandon existing contracts to reprocess spent nuclear fuel in France and Britain. The new draft of the Bill, under which Germany proposes an orderly move to scrap nuclear energy, made no mention of recycling. (AFP)

#### Three arrive on Mir

Moscow: A three-member crew, which may be part of the last team to live and work on Mir, docked successfully with the Russian space station. The Soyuz capsule carrying Viktor Afanasyev. a Russian, Jean-Pierre Heignere. a Frenchman, and Ivan Bella, a Slovak, linked up with Mir two days after blasting off from Kazakhstan, Russian news agencies said. Mir's fate is still undecided. It costs £153 million a year to run. (AP)

#### Spanish beach blasts

Salou: An extortionist is suspected of placing two pipe bombs on beaches in this town in Tarragona province, north-east Spain, killing one man and wounding another. On Sunday, a bomb disposal expert was injured when a homemade bomb blew up in his hands. Earlier a man of 63 was killed by a simi-lar device. Local officials link the blasts to anonymous-letters demanding £430,000 under the threat of bomb attacks. (AP)

#### Grieg works found

Mönster: More than 40 unknown works by the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg, right, have been unearthed by a German musicologist, the University of Münster said. Pro-fessor Joachim Dorfmüller, president of the German Grieg Society, came across the pieces for plano and organ lying unrecognised in the vault of the Norwegian Grieg Society in Bergen. (AFP)



hand give doctors th

## '300 killed' as Saddam battles to quell unrest



Sadig: murdered with

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

ANTI-GOVERNMENT riots in Iraq ignited by the murder of a senior Shia Muslim cleric entered a third day yesterday. despite a draconian crackdown by Special Republican Guards who had killed 300 people in Baghdad, dissidents said last night.

The most serious unrest since a failed Shia uprising in the wake of the 1991 Gulf War appeared spontaneous and

dictions that it could evolve into a full rebellion. "The security forces are operating very brutally, but there is a situation of latent revolution," a spokesman for the opposition Iraqi National Congress said.

President Saddam Hussein's regime seemed confident that it would soon restore total control, rejecting reports of unrest as imaginary and promising to take foreign purnalists today to towns that opposition groups claimed

were in rebel hands.

be flooded with units of the Special Republican Guards, recruited mainly from minority Sunni Muslims whose members control the Government. Units of the regular army, whose rank and file draws heavily on the disaffected Shia population, were not called on to help to quell the rioting. The clashes broke out in Baghdad and several other cities on Saturday morning, hours after the assassination of the leader of Irag's Shia community, Grand Ayatollah

sons in the holy city of Najaf. His killing stoked tension with neighbouring Iran, a pre-dominantly Shia country. which immediately said it held Saddam's regime responsible. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader, said: "The strangulation of Shia Muslims in that country Iraq has now reached a cli-

In the meantime, US and British warplanes bombed air defence sites in the no-fly

returned safely. Iraq said that one person was killed and sev-

ern Iraq yesterday in response to violations of the zones by Iraq's military forces. The US

Central Command said in Tampa that US F15s and Brit-

ish Tornado Jets operating from bases in friendly Gulf

states for the second day in

succession attacked four

radar and military communi-

cations sites near Basra in

southern Iraq after two Iraqi MiG23 jets violated the south-ern zone All the allied planes

## Seoul frees prisoner after 41 years

From Jennifer Veale in Seoul

SOUTH Korea will release this week the world's longest-serving political prisoner along with 16 other long-term prisoners of conscience who have languished in the nation's jails for more than three decades. On Thursday, Woo Yong Gak will walk free after spending 41 of his 71 years be-

hind bars. Nearly 9,000 people from petty thieves to tax evaders will also benefit from an amnesty marking President Kim Dae Jung's first year in office.

The amnesty marks the first time the Government will release political prisoners without binding them by oath to obey security laws, which include one that bans the expression of communist beliefs. Nearly 100 political prisoners were re-

leased last August after they signed the oath. Mr Woo, jailed after leading a military unit into South Korea in 1958, and the other long-term prisoners refused to sign.

Rights groups said that the amnesty did not go far enough. They called for the release of another 200 political prisoners and dozens of union activists and the abolition of the National Security Law, under which 465 people were jailed last year.

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Cover girl: Time speculates on Hillary Ginton's future public career

Senator Clinton?

HILLARY CLINTON'S most likely opponent in a race for the Senate has giveri 2 warning of the rough reception awaiting her in New York by indicatng that he would put her views on a Palestinian State at the heart of a ferocieus campaign.

After the impeachment trial, with President Clinton's political position seture but the end of his term of office in sight, excitement over his wife's possible public career has reached fever pitch with both Time and Newsweek putting her on their covers this week. But Rudolph Giuliani, the Mayor of New York, has jumped quickly to position 'nimself for the fight, denouncing Mrs Clinton's public comment that Palestinians should have their own state as "a very big mistake". He added: "If she's the candidate, obviously it would be an issue and it would be one that people would have to explore."

Mrs Clinton caused a furore last year when she said it was in the "long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to be a state". This departed Giuliani attacks Mrs Clinton for her views on

#### Palestine state, writes Damian Whitworth

from the official Clinton Administration line that statehood is a matter for the Israelis and Palestinians to work out for themselves. Mr Clinton's spokesman had to say that he did not share his wife's view and she ignored questions on the subject when she visited Israel, Gaza and the West Bank in December, "By one of the most influential people in the Clinton Administra-tion saying 'Palestinian State', in essence you have given that away with-out being able to shape it, and you basically side with the Palestinians against

the Israelis," Mr Giuliani said. He was full of smiles in the many television interviews he gave, but such sharp criticism even before either side has declared suggests that the man who cleaned up the streets of Manhattan is relishing the chance of getting his hands dirty if Mrs Clinton steps on

his turf. Ed Koch, the former New York Mayor, said it was ridiculous of Mr Giuliani to anack Mrs Clinton on the issue, but said it "shows you how low a blow he is willing to strike".

Mr Giuliani has vet to commit himself to running for the seat being vacated by Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the veteran Democratic senator, but is widely tipped to be the Republican candidate. While supporters of Mrs Clinton claim that she would be unbearable. Mr Giuliani said that he would be more likely to run if she does. "It would be the most focused-on race in the country," the Mayor said.

He said the result would be close, dismissing a Time/CNN poll that suggested that Mrs Clinton was favoured by 52 per cent to his 43 per cent. The poll also indicated that 43 per cent of respondents agreed with Mrs Clinton's

cent disagreed and 32 were unsure. Of the large Jewish population in New

York, half disagreed with her view. Nevertheless, Mrs Clinton will be heartened that 62 per cent of those Jewish voters opposing her view said it would not be enough in itself to make them vote against her, Mrs Clinton said last week that she was seriously considering running but a final decision was months away. She has a team of consultants and advisers examining the pros and cons of a race.

Mr Clinton has said he thinks she would be a "terrific" senator, but has warned her to take time to think about it. She would face fierce treatment from the New York press as well as her politi-cal opponents. There is also a feeling that much of her popularity can be put down to sympathy with her over the ordeal of her husband's unfaithfulness. Senior Republicans believe that despite her high approval ratings, she is a pol-arising force, loved and loathed in equal measure.



Head girl: Newsweek tips her for roles in Congress or on the world stage

## Man with new hand gives his doctors the slip

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE world's first recipient of a transplanted hand has put his new limb in jeopardy by disappearing, according to his doctors. Clint Hallam, 48, a New Zealander with a history of fraud, has made no contact since early last month with the surgeons who performed the 13-hour operation last September in Lyons.

He was supposed to continue with physiotherapy and a nonitored regimen of drugs to revent rejection of the right and he received from an unamed Frenchman who had ed in a motorcycle accident.

Post-operation publicity Cew attention to Mr Hallam's pson past and allegations th he is a con-man. He surfard last night, however, on th-American television programe 48 Hours on CBS, claning to have been travellinin America. He admitted tha his new hand was decorating. "I have probab-ly ic 40 per cent of the movemen had in France," he said.

If continues to deteriorate. the had may have to be amputated nd his life may even be

Joe alderman, a CBS producer, id that in December Mr Hiam had been able to lift a bde and pour it with the hand. I had muscle strength in the figers. Now, the producer said, "he has lost all of that and it's an almost com-

pletely dead hand". The worried medical team. led by Jean-Michel Dubernard, is questioning its choice of Mr Hallam as a candidate for the landmark operation, 48 Hours reported.

The doctors learnt only after the microsurgery that he had lost his hand 15 years ago in a workshop accident with a circular saw while he was serving time for fraud in a New Zealand prison.

After the operation, Mr Hal-



Hallam pictured shortly

lare was told that he must apply for a visa to re-enter Australia by immigration officers who had learnt of his previous conviction. He had been living in Perth with his wife and four

The saga was complicated further by his being wanted in New South Wales on seven charges that he defrauded individuals of hundreds of thousands of dollars in a marketing scheme. A lawyer said that Mr Hallam was remorseful and wished to repay his alleged victims. Mr Hallam left Lyons on January 8, saw his family off to Perth from Heathrow the next day and spent a few more days in London before flying to America.

After a cat-and-mouse game, 48 Hours tracked him lown to Las Vegas and flew him to New York for the interview at the weekend. But after that, he flew back to Nevada. Although considered too risky by some doctors, Mr Hallam's pioneering operation brought hope to others who

had lost limbs. Mr Hallam told CBS that he had been on a crusade to educate the public about organ dogramme contacted one man he was said to have met, he said he had never heard of Clint



## Drug gangs linked to whale deaths

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

A CYANIDE-BASED chemical used by drug traffickers may be what killed seven grey whales off the Pacific coast of Mexico, according to a group of Mexican environmentalists alarmed by the deaths among an endangered species. Homero Aridjis,

group's leader and a noted author, is asking the Mexican Government to investigate suspicions that the fluorescent chemical, Natural Killer 19, or NK19, used by drug traffickers to mark drop zones in the

ing cocaine cargoes, could be responsible. As the substance breaks down it releases toxic quantities of cynanide - two molecules per molecule of the

compound — into the sea. This greatly alarms us. Above all we have to know

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(other) pollution of their habitat," said Senor Aridjis, before leading an inspection team to

whether it's due to NK19 or to

The California grey whales which breed off the coastal states of Baja California, Sinaloa and Sonora, have been a source of concern for ecologists. Every winter they migrate 5,000 miles from the frigid waters off Siberia and Alaska to the shallow, warm lagoons off Mexico's west coast to raise their calves.



#### **killers** cloose painful death

By LA BRODIE

TWO Genan brothers have those agonising deaths by using rather than painle lethal injections in a attempt to escape capal punishment in Arizaa.

Karl and Walter La-Grand, giverthe choice under Arizonlaw, opted for the gas vamber so that they cou, make a court appeal at it was cruel and un ual punishment" and the unconstitutional

However, the gument struck even deal penalty opponents as urkely to succeed.

"It would be a vy hard one to win in oday's courts," said Richal Diet-er, director of the Death Penalty Informatic Cen-tre in Washington. The Germans' pic was

based on an appealourt finding five years agehat the gas chamber was barbaric. The ring agreed with a lower curt that those executed by:as suffered "excruciang pain for between 15 e-onds and several minute and that using cyanic violated "evolving starards of human decenand has no place in a cit lised society".

Karl LaGrand, 35, who is scheduled to die tomor row, and Walter, 36, due to be executed next week. murdered a 63-year-old bank manager, stabbing him 24 times with a letter opener, because he knew only half the combination to the bank's safe.

#### Turkey rejects EU call for open Ocalan trial

TURKISH officials initially rejected yesterday a European Union demand for observers to be allowed to attend the trial of Abdullah Ocalan, the captured Kurdish leader who may face the death penalty for trea-son but still has no defence

They said arrangements were still being made, but Tur-key needed "no lessons in how to conduct a fair trial". But there were reports that Turkey may modify the structure of the quasi-military court which is to try Mr Ocalan, to meet

Western concerns. In a statement in Luxembourg, EU foreign ministers Turkey's assurances that Mr Ocalan would be given a fair trial, but added: "The EU expects this to mean fair and correct treatment and an open trial according to the rule of law, before an independent court, with access to legal counsel of his choice and with international observers admitted to the trial."

European lawyers offering

Civilian court may try Kurd leader, writes

Richard Owen in Istanbul

to defend Mr Ocalan have been refused entry to Turkey. Mr Ecevit. who faces re-election in April, said any attempt "to put pressure on our courts"

would be "an unacceptable affront to Turkish justice". Mr Ocalan, who is held responsible by the Turks for 30,000 deaths during a 15-year Kurdish campaign in southeastern Turkey, is to be tried on the island of Imrali near Istanbul by a special session of the Ankara State Security Court, which includes military and civil judges.

But Turkish newspapers said the Government was considering tabling an emergency



Kurds protest yesterday about their leader's arrest as EU ministers discuss his fate in Luxembourg

Bill in parliament removing the military component in the court's make-up, on the ground that it would make the proceedings more acceptable

to Europe. The interrogation of Mr Ocalan, who is being held in isolation on Imrali, is due to end today. He is said to be living on tea, soup and boiled potatoes because of stomach problems, and to be chain-

The State Security Court, whose judges are appointed by the Ministry of Justice, has yet to decide whether the trial will be partly or fully public. and whether reporters will be admitted. It is likely to begin next month or early in April.

before the elections. The newspaper Hurriyet re-leased yesterday what it said were details of Mr Ocalan's interrogation so far, in which the captured leader of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) is said to have revealed that his guerrillas fighting Turkish rule in the mountainous terrain of southeastern Turkey had received "rockets and other weapons" from Greece. Hurriyet said the interrogation was being video-recorded, with a

doctor present. Mr Ocalan is said to have told his interrogators that Greece gave "guerrilla and explosives" training at PKK camps on its soil for years. He is reported to have said that Greek intelligence helped him while he was on the run.

President Demirel, who is visiting Manila, said that if Greece continued its "illegal actions". Turkey retained the right to take necessary precautions in self defence.

Shopkeepers in Diyarbakir, the main city in southeastern Turkey, went on strike yesterday to protest against Mr Ocalan's arrest. Turkish officials accused the PKK of intimidat-

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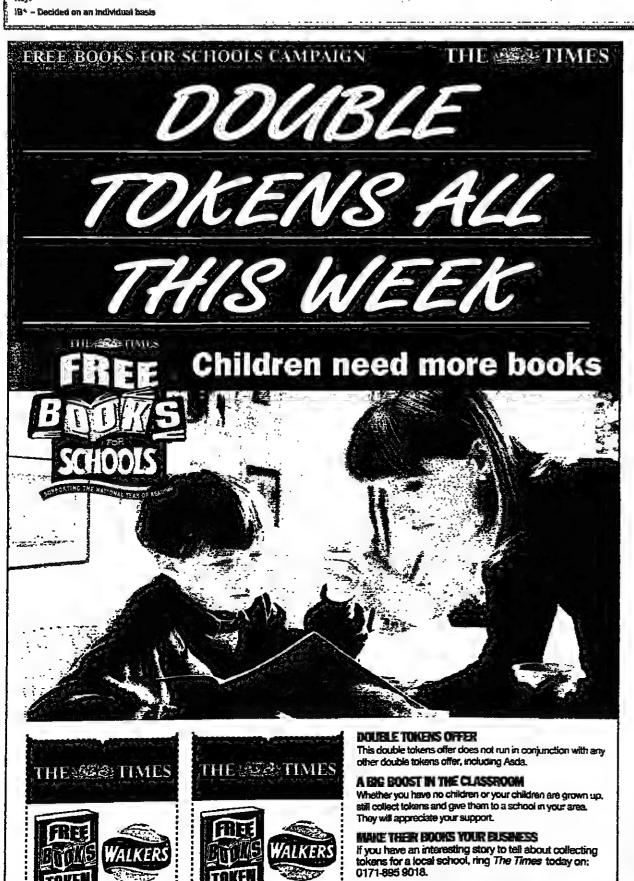
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## IVF treatment and the lottery

There are no nationwide rules governing who is eligible for NHS fertility/treatment — and what you do receive depends on where you live. For many childless couples it has meant heartbreak and thousands of pounds spent seeking private help. Vanora Bennett reports

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## Improving the chances of having a baby

here are 150,000 chil dren and young adults worldwide who owe their lives to assisted reproduction. These former test-tube babies are now playing in their cots or going off to school; a few are of university age. Doctors insist that assisted reproduction should not be seen as a panacea to glue together a crumbling marriage but, as the standard Gynaecology textbook suggests, it does have an important role in fulfilling the hopes of a well-adjusted couple who want to have a baby. More than 90 per cent of infertile couples who want to con-

ceive experience frustration. Amazingly, one in five involuntarily childless married women has felt suicidal while waiting for treatment; one in three said that their marriage had taken a battering because of childlessness. It is not an isolated problem — one in six couples experience difficulty when trying to have a baby - but many of these will conceive without assisted reproduction.

By the time a couple consult their own doctor, they have usually tried all standard methods of improving the chances of conception, But there is a minority who are forced to live separate lives. and who either don't have intercourse often enough or have it at the wrong time of the month. Many women have irregular periods and it is difficult for them to know just what is the correct time of the month. The local pharmacist can help. There are now ovulation-prediction kits available which enable a woman to know when she is ovulating: these react to hormonal changes in the urine at the time of ovulation. The older method of temperature-charting is still important. The details on the special thermometer need to be followed carefully. Ovulation occurs after the tempera-

ture first dips and then rises. When should the would-be mother see her doctor? If the couple have been having regu-lar sex at the time of ovulation for at least a year or IR months, it is time to go to the surgery. If the medical history

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CHANGING TIMES

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of either the father or the mother prompts concerns about conception, seek specialist help earlier rather than waiting. Only after all other techniques have failed or are

deemed unsuitable is in vitro

recommended. The ovaries are stimulated to produce mature eggs (ova). Some ten to 14 days later. a needle is inserted with the help of ultrasound, either through the abdominal wall or the vaginal so as to retrieve about ten ma-

fertilisation (IVF)

multiple ture eggs.
In the laboratory births the eggs are ferti-lised by washed sperm and, about 40 hours lat-

er, three or four fertilised eggs are inserted through the vagi na into the uterus. The fertilised eggs not used on the first occasion are frozen and saved. The ovarian stimulation is achieved by giving a combina-tion of Clomid, human menopausal gonadotrophin and a gonadotrophin-releasing hormone agonist. This stimulates

the pituitary (an endocrine gland at the base of the brain) to release gonadotrophins. The success rate of IVF is about 25 per cent. inevitably, the conception rate is greater than the final successful birth rate; it seems that a greater number of embryos are lost after IVF than with natural con-

The specialised units which offer assisted reproduction have an ever-growing armoury of drugs and invasive procedures. The regime starts with the prescription of Clo-

mid (clomiphene).

a drug which encourages ovula-tion. When it is pre-Specialist scribed, a specialist control usually gives ad-vice on diet, weight loss, rest and ten-sion reduction. avoids the while also recomrisk of mending a daily intake of folic acid. Clomid may be effective but is no longer used for more than six months as it can oc-

casionally have long-term adverse effects. It gives a couple an 8 per cent chance of having twins and one in 1,000 chance of having triplets or quads. Most doctors now recommend that women are under specialist control so that they can be certain there is no risk of a multiple birth. Clomid may also cause hot flushes, breast tenderness, nausea, headaches and, in a

few cases, hyperstrulation syndrome in which e ovaries become inflamed arfluid collects in the abdome

Specialist units Iso have stronger ovulate drugs which are given injection. Considerable carris needed when these are led as the risk of ovarian iperstimulation syndrome bomes more likely. After treshent 95 per cent of women vulate, but only 50 to 75 pepent become pregnant; mulile pregnan-cies are also a pblem. GIFT (game/intra-Fallopi-

an tube transf) is the technique of place an unfertilised ovum ar/sperm together in the Fappian tube by means of lapascopy. A general anaestheriis needed. It is an alternativo IVF.

Treatmen/f male infertility has always een unsatisfactory but, reoltly, a procedure which invoks injecting a sin-gle sperm to an ovum (intra cytoplasm sperm injection) together wh IVF has enabled some coules to have babies without norting to sperm donorship despite very low sperm dints or ejaculatory failure. nother regime which can helpo overcome the problems of tale infertility is intrauterinensemination. Ovulation isstimulated by drugs then a secially prepared selection ofctive sperm is injected throug the cervix.

 Néonal Infertility Awareness ampaign, phone 0800-716 !5 (free).



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stopped him producing sperm. So their health authority, the London Borough of Hounslow, funded fertility care. After four cycles of treatment. Alison conceived; she gave birth to twins last June. All the Tripps had to pay for were the drugs and donor sperm. Their total costs were

Not far away, in Hertford-shire. 31-year-old Barnaby and Nikki also want to have a haby, but Barnaby, like Chris Tripp, has a medical condition that limits his production of sperm. Their North Hertford-shire Health Authority, however, has less generous rules about funding fertility treat-

ment than Hounslow.

So Barnaby and Nikki —
who are not rich — have had to pay for private care. Nikki has not yet conceived. But, since they started in September 1996, their efforts have cost them £13,000 to £14,000.

We just feel so discriminated against that we're not get-ting any funding," says Barn-aby, a freelance graphic designer. "It's very unfair for a lot of couples. I think there should be the same treatment for all, or why should we pay for other people to get it?"

The different fates of these two similar couples illustrate one of the great injustices in National Health Service funding. Although one in seven cou-ples seeks infertility treatment, there are no nationwide rules for who can get it — and what help you get depends on where you live. Each regional health authorizes its own budget and makes its own

rules about whom it will pay for — which varies wildly from region to region. The National Infertility Awareness Campaign (NIAC), which is pushing for re-form calls this a "divisive and discriminatory" sys-tem, a lottery of treatment by postcode".

I nevt m

1 Stalema

factor' "Regretiably. where you live remains the most important deciding factor as to whether you receive funded treatment," says the NIAC. "Health authority spending on infertility services remains patchy and chaotic, eligibility criteria employed by health authorities

vary widely." Infertility is a widespread problem. One in six couples in Britain has trouble conceiving at some point, NIAC says. But, with not enough money to go around to treat all patients, health authorities have to limit numbers.

In some areas, women over 34 cannot be treated; in others. the maximum age for women is 40 or older. Some districts set a maximum age for men. varying between 45 and 60. Some areas will not fund treatment for couples if either partner has a child from a previ-

100,000 population (the NIAC recommends that Britain needs a higher rate of 40 treatments per 100,000), and Wales provides 23, the West Midlands prevides only 35 and Northern Imland page 35 and Northern Ireland none at

Belatedly, the Government seems to be recognising the existence of a problem. This month,

the Department of 'It's unfair Health commissioned a new nationwide survey of for a lot of fertility treatment available on the couples. It NHS, so that Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, should be can see for himself the scale of regional variations in treatment and pon-

der future policy.

A Department of Health spokeswornan says the survey was waiting for a final go-ahead. She was unsure when it would be ready. But, she says, once ready, it might be used as a consultative document for the new National Institute for Clinical Excellence, which sams work next April and wil be asked to offer standard guidelines on fertility treatment to local health authorities across Britain. The guidelines might

tional age limit. But, for the moment, if you live in an area where the health authority does not pay for the treatment you need, the only way to get it is out of your own pocket. The

'Where

you live

remains

the most

decisive

also include a standardised ga-

start to mount only add to the anxiety of trying to get preg "Worrying about money certainly adds to the stress of the treatment," Barnaby says.
"They tell you not to worry but it's Catch-22: you find you've started wor-

rying about worrying about the money." Balen, consultant gynaecologist and obstetrician at Leeds General infirmary's assisted conception unit, is frustrated by the financial emphasis that dominates his work. "If you were to sit in on my clinic, you'd see that I spend more time talking about economics than the medical

he NHS funds about 30 per cent of patients says Balen. Another 65 per cent are "self-funded", getting exactly the same care as NHS patients but paying for themselves. The final 5 per cent are the truly private

tions to be along those lines."

patients, paying a little extra for consultant visits. There will always have to

be some rationing and there may well be age or other cutoffs," says Balen. "But it's a question of providing an

appropriate balance." As Nikki and Barnaby know to their cost, that balance does not yet exist. They have the misfortune to live in Hertfordshire where, Barnaby says, there is a blanket rule of no funding for fertility treat-ment. They have looked everywhere for the money. First they spent their savings. Then Nikki's grandmother gave the

couple some financial help. Later they from borrowed Barnaby's father. Now? They are not sure.

"We're having a break at the moment because of finances. We're goin June or July and probably go for another treatment then," he adds, You think, we can use that bit of mon-

ey, borrow from We haven't somewhere. thought about remortgaging the house yet. The money we are spending on treatment is money that we're sort of saving over the year."

the same

for all'

Tith not even a positive pregnan-cy test to show so far for several attempts at assisted conception, they are making what economies they can, where they can. For instance, they have discovered they can save up to £50 a day on fertility drugs just by phoning around different pharmacies. And they compare notes on costs with other would-be parents in a local debts that thea support group.

any information, they pass it on," says Barnaby. "It almost feels like being in a terrorist

group."
They have even thought of, but rejected, the idea of moving house to move into an area with a more generous

"There'd be all the upheaval and change," says Nikki, an art therapist. "And there would still be no guarantees if we did move. Once you move, there's a wait. You have to live in a place for a year or two before you can even go on the waiting list.

"Emotionally it's been a big strain over the year. It felt a lot of treatment to have in a year. We also felt compulsively that we had to try it again, at whatever cost," she adds.

'Rut since the last treatment side of the situation with that need to try again so quickly has sort of subsided. I think patients. I don't want consultawe're coping with it a bit bet-

The happiness that goes with successful fertility treatment is undeniable. Speaking over the sound of her eight month-old twins crying, Alison Tripp is still breathless with joy as she describes the end of "four years of hell" trying to have a baby.

"It's made us a whole family. We're just complete. It's lovely," she says.



Alison and Christopher Tripp with their twins - born after four cycles of IVF treatment largely paid for by their local health authority. Their cost £600

she and her husband are to live in an area where the State paid up. She doesn't know how they would have afforded care otherwise. "It can cost thousands, especially if you have to have lots of goes," she

We couldn't really have afforded it. It would have been very difficult. I would say it's very unfair. So many people who can't afford it just sit back and say we'll have to leave it' She sighs and adds: "You do get guilty pangs. You do."

ARTS

Giles Whittell reports on Office Space, the cartoon triumph starring real people, which is America's most eagerly awaited release. Arts, pages 35-37

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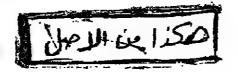
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## Seized by the honourable members

Only one Lib Dem has the

essential equipment for leadership

effecting on his bisexu-al past, the diarist and conservationist James Lees-Milne confessed that he "liked my men to be manly and women to be womanly". I confess that I share his outlook. Although not his life-style. If you believe in pluralism, whether in the bedroom or at the ballot box, then you should cherish diversity.

Which is why rule by the

politically androgynous is so depressing. The rise of the unisex fragrance, such as the dreadful CK One, is mirrored in the dominance of the inclusive politician. Like the unfortunate MP called Bossom who once attracted Winston Churchill's attention, our rulers are "neither one damn thing or another". It was all too appropriate, and dispiriting, that the giant human form which the Blair Government first planned to include in the Millennium Dome was

to have been emasculated. But what Mr Blair failed to do with the figure in the Dome, he has tried to do with Britain's political parties. His own was a useful carthorse to pull his triumphal chariot to No 10. But now it is practically a gelding. If Labour has a point, it is to allow the dissenting spirit a free rein. But Mr Blair uses his whip to cow a creature afraid any

longer to know itself. Mr Blair's ambitions reach far beyond the party he has now broken in. Last week he lectured the Tories on how they should evolve to give less offence. A Conwho servative agreed with him on

the single currency, such as Ken Clarke, should be their next leader. Mr Blair's enthusiasm for GM foods suggests he has no difficulty with playing God, but must he try to

create every party leader in his own image? What is the point of a Conservative Party which does not try to conserve a few things? Like the pound, for example.

The Tories may, so far, have escaped neutering but the Prime Minister certainly had the Liberal Democrats by the vitals. Paddy Ashdown was so anxious to get into bed with the Government that he didn't realise that his virility was in Mr Blair's icy grip. His policy of co-operation led him into a hunched posture at the Prime Minister's side, meekly acquiescent at the sidelining of the Jenkins Commission and mutely nodding through changes to the criminal justice system offensive to liberal principles. Little Captain Echo became lead castrato in the

The greatest service that Mr Ashdown has rendered his party is to resign now. There is a chance that the Liberal Democrats could use the freedom they still have, to choose their leader, to remind themselves why they came into politics. They could elect a Liberal Democrat leader who is genuinely liberal. They are lucky to have a candidate available with the character and convictions to make their party a success in its own right, instead of Mr Blair's limp appendage. She is the Taunton MP, Jackie Ballard. Consideration of who should be the next Liberal

Democrat leader has tended to focus on the seven dwarfs; Charles Kennedy, Menzies Campbell, Simon Hughes, Nick Harvey, Malcolm Bruce, Don Foster and David Rendel. They are, respectively, the Lazy, Cosy, Wimpy, Baldy, Nerdy, Drabby and Who He? of British politics. Mrs Ballard may not be quite Snow White, but she has a magic none of

the rest can quite aspire to. it has been assumed that the two front-runners for the post are Kennedy and Harvey. The former's "communications skills" and the latter's anoint-ing by Mr Ashdown are held to place them ahead of the rest. But does either have the steel which a leader requires?

Mr Kennedy's game-show chattiness, so strikingly reminiscent of Nicky Campbell on Wheel of Fortune, has a certain charm. But the style is uncomfortably close to being Blairism Lite. And the sub-stance has had all the constanof Nicky's wheel. Mr Kennedy has moved from being an advocate of closer ties with Labour to an opponent; his only fixed position has been distance from his leader. British politics doesn't need another opportunist.

Which is why we don't need Mr Harvey. The North Devon MP, after a lifetime of principled Euroscepticism, chose to herald Mr Ashdown's retirement with a statement supporting the single currency. His

approach to leadership seems to be the wetted finger held aloft to catch

the breeze.
It is not Mrs
Ballard's. She recognises that the essence of Liberalism, as Conrad Russell has pointed out, is a belief in the dispersal of And she has held to that view, risking

popularity with Mr Ashdown by opposing any further co-operation with La-bour, an exercise in the concentration of power which has

done liberalism no credit. If the Liberal Democrats are to thrive they have to be an alternative, not a substitute. The point applies with particular force in elections, such as the European, Scottish and Welsh, which are governed by proportional representation. Without the benefit of the tactical voting which occurs in first-past-the-post contests, parties must compete on their intrinsic qualities, not their closeness in others.

Mrs Ballard's intrinsic qualities are courage and conviction. On Europe, hunting, education and vegetarianism she has views which sometimes irked Mr Ashdown and are opposite to my own. But they are quintessentially liber-al. She recalls, in her combination of forthright manner and sympathy for the underdog. Labour's Mo Mowlam and the Tories' Ann Widdecombe. Is it any coincidence that both are their respective parties'

most popular politicians? In an ideal world, leaders should have balls. However appropriate James Lees-Milne's admirable sentiment. there is an exception even to golden rules. If the only leader with balls is a woman, then she's got my vote.

michael.gove@the-times.co.uk



## Metropolitan values

Sir Paul Condon should not be

forced into a show-trial confession

reform or police corruption, the pattern is so frustrating that you want to spit. What happens is this. A debate begins. For a brief moment aggravated by the way Britain is there is a sense of much-needed run. For more than two decades, national spring-cleaning. Then, by with only fig-leaf gestures of ameliothe magic of media, it turns into a ration, government has shruggingly complicated row about leaks, injunc-tions, manipulation, party politics, "hypocrisy", and non-issues like the "freedom of the press" to jump the gun even if something was going to be public in a few days anyway. Brawling, we veer off the main point and bury the issue under a accepted high unemployment among the less educated young. I At the time it was a scandal. Now it is commonplace for a boy to leave. mound of disgusting trivia, until everyone is bored with it. So it is noschool at 16 because he has no taste do. Racist behaviour must be made for the classroom; and to find - not worth whatever obscure kick

t's always the same. Whether the issue is genetically modi-fied food, arms sales, welfare

surprise that - courtesy of the

impatient hubris of newspapers and

the flat feet of government -

aiready the contents of the Macpher-

son report are fuelling a noisy row

irrelevant to justice, racial harmo-

ny, the Lawrence family or the

So to hell with it. A plague on both

their houses. Let us leave the fray

and quietly meditate on the failure

of certain parts of Britain to

outgrow the futile, dreary, pointless

evil of racism. For dreary it is: of all

the vices, the worst are those with no

corresponding joy. Say what you like about drink and drugs and lechery and theft, they at least have the faint merit of seeming like a

good idea at the time. They have links to innocent God-given pleas-

ures. Racism, on the other hand.

offers only the thin, sour satisfac-

tions of enmity. Do you think those

tive young men, caught on hidden cameras mouthing hate and mim-ing stabbings, are happy? Do you

think the sneering canteen-racist

culture of some policemen enhances

Of course it doesn't. It is com-

pounded of fear and ignorance and

immaturity. I often get letters from keen racists - most journalists do -

and behind the ranting it is easy to

discern unhappiness, fear, and

sour, obsessive disappointment. Rac-

ists of all classes (and, let it be said, more than one ethnic group) are united in coming across as de-

So why is there so much of it? And

pressed and depressing people.

those officers' lives?

Metropolitan Police.

unless he is lucky . Application and the fact enough to fall in the rise of the with something like the Prince's Trust that the adult world has no use or respect for him. Ifhe is offered anything it will be another classroom, or fake work carrying no respect. You do not need a degree in psychology to work out that in

such a situation gangs will develop. to provide company and hierarchy. Nor is it difficult to work out that some, at least, of these boys will conclude that the reason for their rejection is

that "blackies take our jobs". Especially if their parents keep saying so. As for young black men in the same position, some of whom also form gangs, they have an even lower chance of employment, exacerbased by a higher chance of the "stop and search" harassment which has been an abuse for more than 30 years. No: racial violence is not a lone germ assaulting an otherwise healthy society. It is an integral part of a problem which no government has tackled properly. expensively, and radically. It would be daring to claim that the nearer we get to full youth employment the less street racism there will be, but it

how do we stop it occurring in the upcoming generation? Politically is not a connection to ignore. From what we know of the correct nagging alone won't do the job. Without excusing criminals, it Macpherson report, it takes a should be remarked that the probstrong line on the need for those lem of street gangs, who roam around looking for enemies, is convicted of racial crime to undergo "compulsory education and treat-

ment". Well, re-education may work on the very young and unformed, but those over a certain age will resist it, speak of Thought Police and think themselves martyrs. For them, the deterrent has to be remember 20 years ago interview—another Macpherson measure: far ing some 17-year-olds who had—industries in the interview another Macpherson measure: far ing some 17-year-olds who had—industries in the interview another Macpherson measure: far ing some 17-year-olds who had—industries in the interview another Macpherson measure: far ing some 17-year-olds who had—industries in the interview another Macpherson measure: far ing some 17-year-olds who had—industries in the industries in the industri your collar felt. Spitting at Asians' front doors or shouting abuse will

Macplairson suggestion that racist polemic in private should be illegal: again, why make martyrs? Better to police the public are-

na properly.

And policing lies at the heart of it. The refusal of Commissioner Sir Paul Condon to countenance the phrase institutionally racist" about the Met seems, ominously, to be a stickingpoint. "There must be," said Macpherson, "an unequivo-

tional racism and its nature." Any police chief who "feels unable to so respond" is deemed to be ineffective. There are two reasons this makes me uneasy. One is the sense of a show-trial confession. Apology to the Lawrences is one thing: it had to be made, and openly. General breast-beating according to an en-forced formula is quite another. Why should chief constables who glibly accept the phrase be safe, and Sir Paul - known to be no racist be forced out for refusing to accept

an imposed, emotive form of words which insults his better officers? The other reason is that I mistrust general confessions of the "we-areall-guilty" nature. In any field you like to name - crime, poverty, child abuse, racism — the insistent political correctness which loads blame on everyone invariably has the effect of camouflaging the real

villains. We are not all guilty. We are sometimes complacent and need shaking up, but that is not the same thing. The polite are human beings and should be managed in ways which reinforce, rather than denying, their humanity. Which is more likely to produce an enthusiasm for reform — saying "We are a wicked institution", or "We are an institution that aims to be good, and will punish any number who ever falls punish any number who ever falls

below our standards again"?
Admittedly, in the case of the
Metropolitar Police, the latter statement would be a lot more convinc-ing if heads had rolled, instead of retiring, over the Lawrence affair. All the same I doubt that a formal declaration of "institutional racism would help.

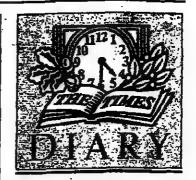
There are other questions: among. them the proposal to abandon the "double leadardy" rule under which you cannot be tried for the same crime twice Again, this seems oddly placed; it is quite possible that we have come to a stage where this rule could be made adjustable, but it is an ancient protection against cat-and-mouse treatment of suspects, and a spur to the concentration of prosecutors first time round. To change it needs wider consideration than one conclusion of one inquiry and the freakish position of three suspects.

tat London needs more black police is obvious. It won't get them until the relationship of police, white racist things and young disaffected black men has been comprehensively straightened out, all the way from the primary school to the middleaged white copper who still can't see what all the first is about. Marpher-

son is a start.

But until the lost generation of inner-city youth is valued and mutured by public policy, it will be uphill work. Any parent with hopeful and high-aspiring teenag ers will tell you that cheerful kids with reasonable life prospects are color-blind among themselves, and/consider, racism - if they consider it at all - to be embarrass ingly uncool Freaky. Weird. Their healshaking over the Lawrence afflir is one of the most hopeful signs currently on view. They "don't get it". But that is because they are hippy and hopeful. Down in the nean streets there are plenty of ther teenagers with little reason to

omment@the-times.co.uk



## Labour of love

AN AGONY aunt is to tend to those increasingly excitable and confused Labour MPs. Amid strict secrety, the party has produced "dummy" editions of a populist magazine (suitably simple for its target audience). A key feature: "The

The glossy quarterly will offer colour snaps of the PM and the latest hor gossip and happening events for Labour luvvies. Personal contributions from senior figures will address everything except

"Preson and DIY".

Meanwhile, Tories will also launch their own "hip" magazine. "It will be very young in outlook," they insist. "Pull of our thrusting members." Don't exaggerate, boys.

THE Queen has applied for permission to erect a partition in a bedroom at Buckingham Palace, I am assured that this does not imply that Prince Edward's relationship with Sophie Rhys-Jones is going true to form.

MOTHERS of pupils at Giggles-wick School, in North Yorkshire, have formed an action group to combat the "moral degeneracy" of the area's favourite export, Emmerdale - the village soap where lesbian exercise has spiced up life

in the milking shed (below). Giggleswick old boys include Richard Whiteley, whose buffoonery has been given the all-clear. But



one exotic former English master would have received a mighty thwak with the garden rake Russell Harry...

CANINE conflict at Stormont After a tree was planted for each Assembly member, one sapling had an unwelcome visitor. Sammy Wilson, Democratic Unionist, led his mutt to the Gerry Adams tree, where it expressed his master's appreciation.

I AM struck by Jack Cunningham's chumminess with the gene lobby. Last spring, Jackboots paid a quiet visit to Zeneca's genetic re-search institute in Bracknell: "He reminded everyone of his PhD in chemistry, and said how pleasant it was to be among friends for a change," I hear. "He stressed that Catherine, his elder daughter, had finished a degree in genetic engineering." Luckily, none of the big GM firms rushed to offer her a job. So she now researches human genes, steering clear of killer tomatoes.

PATSY KENSIT was spotted in Kensington on Sunday buying a pile of books on pregnancy. Thus we have the delightful possibility of a baby Liam Gallagher.

'IT'S DECENERATED



MININE

■ GRETA GARBO has a new father. Hollywood's favourite misery was not the daughter of Alfred Gustafsson after all, but of neighbour Sven Gustafsson (the surname is chance). Evidence found by a Stig Tomthund shows that, as a salesgirl in the early 1920s, Garbo received a big inheritance from Sven's sister. He insists this was because Garbo was her niece. So that's why she wanted to be alone.

THOSE spritualist thinkers Glenn Hoddle and David Icke have had a tiff. Icke, a Son of God, says Hoddle should realise

"consciousness, not the physical body, is eternal". OK, Glenn?

REPORTS about Lord Archer's son James, suspended from his City job, say he was captain of athletics at Oxford. Odd, because he wasn't There was also confusion, remember, about his papa's CV, especially over his stint at varsity. Nothing genetic, I am assured: "James was actually captain at Eton, breaking the 800 meters record."

JASPER GERARD

#### 'What gain does Freud foresee in accepting the Queen as his subject? The more sinister answer is that he aims at subversion'

or some years, sensitive negotiations have been un-der way between the Queen's most politic adviser and Britain's least diplomatic painter. Now, at last, they may be reaching an end. Lucian Freud. an artist renowned for his remorseless eye, has conditionally agreed to Sir Robert Fellowes's request that he should paint a portrait of the Queen.

Freud has painted a queen before. He posed his subject stark naked on a bar stool, sweeping thick brushstrokes round ballooning thighs. But that was Leigh Bowery, queen of high camp, sovereign of a clubland rather less staid than the establishment purlieus of St James's.

But it's easy to understand why the nation would now like Freud to paint a portrait of its real monarch. After all, he has offer of free tickets to his shows. been hailed as Britain's greatest

living painter. He could become a contemporary Gainsborough His vision may be bleak, but the Queen is not vain. She may have disapproved of a recent stamp design in which her profile went up in a puff of smoke, but more often she has regally ignored all reference to the grisly blotches or bloated fingers with which less competent portraitists have depicted her. The more interesting question is why Lucian Freud would wish to paint the Queen. He has no need of the royal imprimatur; and proved as much in refusing a commission to paint Diana. Princess of Wales. He prefers to choose his models for himself, and when Andrew Lloyd Webber suggested Freud might paint his wife, the artist refused, complaining afterwards that he had been "threatened" by the composer "with the

Great art is, in its very nature,

Rachel Campbell-Johnston

dissident. The great artist may be fit for the highest and lowest but powerful when he spoke of societies, but should never join either. To aspire to such individuality demands courage and stamina. The weakling will never clamber out of Kierkegaard's "common pool of shared meanings". So what, then, is the point, after struggling through layer upon layer of convention, through a mire of disapproval and hostility, only to arrive at the heart of all that is conventional? What gain does Freud foresee in accepting the Queen as his subject?
The more sinister answer is

that he aims at subversion. He

has often selected his models

from the elite. The blue blood

which twists through painted veins is quite real. The critic

Terence Mullaly pinpointed

paintings. Freud's art is to aestheticise cold disgust. He splays his socialites like stuts, abandons them like women after rape. "I'm really only interested in my sitters as animals," he once the privileged are dumped

the "compelling nastiness" of the

like meat on his huncher's slab. When a pregnant Jerry Hall offered her services as a muse, some were surprised that Freud should have accepted. But the artist takes a cruel fancy to the grotesque. The result was no homage to a celebrity's willowy grace, buta brutally dispassionale study of distortion. If part of Freud's aim is to dissolve the soft-focus of celebrity

in a raw light, then the Queen, Britain's wealthiest and most famous woman, would surely provide the perfect subject. She is uniquely protected by an aura of social respect. And already Freud is inverting the assumptions of sovereignty with stringent demands, requesting that the Queen should endure some

In agreeing to undertake this commission. Freud participates in a twisted play of power. Notoriously reclusive he se-cludes himself in his Notting Hill home. Famous for his sexual profligacy, he breaks the nuclear family's norms, indifferent to his subjects, he lets the usual bonds of relationships snap. But through this very unconventionality, he assent the primary of

the artist as individual. The white scarf and sallow features of Frend may be spotted surprisingly often at the fringes of rather smart parties. Like the dandy Baudelaire, in whose tradition he treads, he moves in the circles that his work most scorns. He realises, perhaps, that his aesthetic aims are defined Baudelsire may have declared that honours "encourage hypocrisy and freeze the spontaneous upsurge of a free heart" yet he hunted them grimly in later life: And Freud appears to be doing the same. He has already been appointed to the Order of Merit. But, for a painter, the ultimate definition of nonconformist ideals could be realised through a portrait of the person who is most socially prized. If Sir Robert Fellowes's plan comes to fruition. then Freud will not have compro-

mised himself. He will probably

produce one of his most powerful

rciohnsion@the-times.co.uk

#### **CONDON SHOULD STAY**

Substantial reform does not require a sacrificial Commissioner

Although the full report from Sir William Macpherson of Cluny will not be published until tomorrow, the essence of that document is already in the public domain. The failings of the police, Sir William will argue, were due less to incompetence than an insensitivity bordering on indifference to racially motivated attacks. This, it will be claimed, was the result of "pernicious and institutionalised racism" embedded in the culture of the London force. That phrase has already produced a chorus of voices demanding the resignation of Sir Paul Condon as Metropolitan Police Commissioner. Sir Paul made it clear yesterday that he did not intend to leave his post.

,K) .

The Commissioner is right to take that stand. He should not offer his resignation unless, as he has himself conceded, he is accused personally of dishonesty or malpractice. This is exceptionally unlikely. Sir Paul has an exemplary record on these issues. He has attempted, with modest resources and modest success, to address the issue of racism within the constabulary. He authorised the use of unorthodox methods in an attempt to secure a conviction in this case. He has conceded that the Metropolitan Police requires sweeping and immediate reform.

The case for forcing Sir Paul from his position appears to stand on four charges. The first is that someone, somewhere, should assume responsibility for the fiasco of the Lawrence investigation. As almost all the relevant South London detectives have disappeared from the scene, it is contended, Sir Paul should take their place. The second is the fact that Sir Paul endorsed the original internal investigation of the Lawrence case. The third is that the Commissioner's refusal to admit that his force suffers from "institutional racism" renders him incredible. The fourth is that his removal is an essential precondition to the modernisation of the police in London.

All these charges are fatally flawed. To eject Sir Paul from office, regardless of his record, purely because he is the most senior figure available for retribution, would be to compound injustice with injustice. He had every reason to trust those whom he had asked to examine the Lawrence murder. To deem him disqualified because of a semantic argument over the meaning of the phrase "institutionalised racism" - a slippery term - would be perverse. To believe that obtaining Sir Paul's head would advance the prospect of a non-racist, more responsive, police force is, at best, an act of innocence and, at worst, one that would prove counter-productive.

This is not to argue merely that Sir Paul's departure would "lower morale" among police officers. It probably would do that: but this has to be balanced against the rock-bottom "morale" of many law-abiding members of the public whose co-operation is essential for successful policing. It has to be recognised that any overhaul of the police will take time and, initially at least, involves the retraining of existing personnel. Sir Paul is the best person to put in place the transitional arrangements that another figure must see through. If he were forced out, he would be replaced on a temporary basis by his deputy commissioner, John Stevens, who is not famed for radicalism himself and would not possess the authority to impose real change.

Those who seek the reform of the Police have to decide whether they are interested in symbolism or substance. If it is to be the former, then Sir Paul will be deemed guilty by association and pushed our. That would be an ironic outcome to the Lawrence tragedy. If the latter, however, the Commissioner will instead be offered new tools with which to start the process of reconstruction which next year a reforming successor should continue. This is the route that Jack Straw should now take.

#### **FIRST STEPS**

#### India and Pakistan edge towards useful talks

At the end of the two-day visit by the Indian Prime Minister to Pakistan, the leaders of the world's newest nuclear powers committed themselves to extending their moratoriums on nuclear testing, notifying each other about ballistic missile tests and warning each other of accidental incidents. that could lead to war. These are the minimum steps necessary for coexistence. They do not chart a path for improved relations, promise an end to 50 years of mutual hatred or outline how they will tackle the underlying cause of tension, the unresolved issue of Kashmir. Nevertheless, this first summit in either country for a decade does, as the Indian press has enthusiastically remarked, break the ice.

India has been delighted with the visit, ostensibly undertaken to mark the inauguration of a cross-border bus service. President Narayanan spoke of a "new chapter in relations and predicted farreaching confidence-building measures. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Prime Minister, was more restrained, admitting that it was too early to speak of a normalisation of relations. In Pakistan the mood has been much gloomier, with pessimism over Kashmir and criticism from opportunist politicians that Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, had not insisted on India signing the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Both men have a real interest in playing the peacemaker. In India, Mr Vajpayee's Hindu nationalist Government is under attack for its earlier gung he rhetoric and the worldwide criticism that followed last year's decision to explode a nuclear device. The stridency of the ruling BJPs religious intolerance has awoken real fears among

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India's huge Muslim minority, and even more among the small, embattled Christian community whose churches have been burnt and missionaries attacked. Mr Vajpayee needed to show that he could rise above sectarian interests to tackle the real obstacle to development in the sub-continent. In Pakistan Mr Sharif is under even greater pressure. More than India, the country has been hit by the reduction in Western aid that followed Pakistan's tit-for-tat nuclear tests. And Pakistan, its economy stagnant, can ill afford confrontation despite the harsh stridency of Islamic nationalists and political opportunists. However broad the smiles or warm the

embrace of the two leaders, their personal commitment can only start the process. Even as they spoke, suspected separatists shot dead two Hindus southeast of Srinigar and a further 12 people were killed by gunfire in Kashmir yesterday. Back home, the glow of goodwill will fade, as extremists on both sides try to wreck the talks and nationalists demonstrate against better relations. Mr Vajpayee and Mr Sharif must pick imaginative and flexible men as their chief negotiators. They must revisit the talks to insist on progress if their initiative is not to run into the same sands as the foreign ministers' dialogue in 1997. And they must produce rapid and visible benefits of the detente that create the confidence to tackle the intractable issues. Both countries went to the nuclear brink last summer. They know the costs of an arms race and that has persuaded them to join the world moratorium on testing. Until they sign, the sub-continent remains an unpredictable nuclear flashpoint.

#### **CONCEIVING CHANGE**

#### Disparity in IVF treatment reflects a wider NHS dilemma

Couples seeking infertility treatment on the National Health Service play a lottery of life. The table we publish today is a graphic illustration of so-called "postcode prescribing. A woman who lives in one health authority area might have to pay thousands of pounds for in vitro-fertilisation (IVF) while another, living under a neighbouring authority only a few miles away, receives it free. Such disparities invariably provoke cries of "injustice" and outrage that the NHS no longer offers universality of provision. Yet with finite resources, priorities must be set. The issue is who sets them, and how.

At the moment there are no national guidelines which define who is eligible for IVF treatment or for other new expensive drugs. Throughout the country people are being denied costly medicines, such as those used to treat multiple sclerosis or motor neurone disease, often without knowing who made the decision to forbid the prescription, and on what grounds.

The Government's Stakhanovite drive to cut waiting lists by 100,000 and end waiting for cancer surgery risks distorting priorities still further. These policies might have tested well in focus-groups, but they appear to be having peculiar side effects in hospitals and surgeries, as the Health Secretary's political needs continue to compete with patients' clinical needs. Last year, for example, eleven health authorities spent more on IVF in an attempt to cut their waiting lists. Once the queues had shortened, some authorities ceased to offer IVF treatment altogether.

Exposing this Byzantine decision-making process to the harsh light of public accountability might be part of the solution. Although hospitals, like schools, now have their performance published in league tables, the assessment criteria do not focus on the provision of healthcare and who is eligible for it. Ministers, terrified of admitting that rationing exists within the NHS, might balk at the idea of publishing this information. Yet it might be their salvation. Health authorities: rather than successive Health Secretaries, would become the lightning conductors for patients' ire. People in the West Country might ask why Dorset can afford to offer IVF treatment while it is not available in any of the bordering counties.

More information will not address the conundrum that, however much taxpayers' money is spent on it, the NHS cannot meet soaring expectations. Ministers are pinning their hopes on the new National Institute for Clinical Excellence, which will decide which treatments the NHS should provide and issue clear guidelines of who is eligible. This should spark a long-overdue public debate about what clinical needs the overstretched NHS should meet free of charge, and what services should be paid for. Until that boundary has been defined, demands on hospitals will continue to soar. with priorities, in IVF treatment as other areas, being set in mysterious ways.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Benefit cuts threat to lives of poor

#### GM policy shows 'double standards'

From the Director of the Soil Association

Sir, The well-used phrase that we are treating human beings like guinea-pigs and the environment like an open-air laboratory may seem emo-tive in the context of the current gene-tically modified (GM) foods debate (letters, Pebruary 17 and 19), yet I believe this accurately describes the Government's current policy in rela-tion to the licensing of GM crops in trial plots and the food chain.

On food safety, at the very least, if the results of Dr Arpad Pusztai's experiments are confirmed (where rats led on a genetically modified potato containing a lectin developed brain and immune system abnormalines). this would be cause for serious concern. This is because a GM maire with a different lectin is already in the food chain.

The Government is also adopting double standards. Its requirements during research on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) for medical application prohibit the release of any viable GMO into the environment, whereas when it comes to experiments with food crops, whose poten-tial to damage both the environment and human health are far greater, there is no such prohibition. It amounts to an acceptance by the Government that, although the impact of this technology is still both unpredictable and untested, and if something goes wrong is unrecallable, it is acceptable to take risks with both the environment and human health.

For these reasons this association considers that the Government's current behaviour in relation to genetically modified foods and crop resistance is both complacent and irresponsible.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK HOLDEN, Director, Soil Association. 40-56 Victoria Street, Bristol BSI 6BY. February 19.

#### From Lord Jenkin of Roding

Sir, I read Lord Sainsbury of Turville's statement (report and leading article, February 17) about his involvement with GMOs with astonishment.

When he appeared before the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology on January 26. I gave him an opportunity to ex-plain his role as Science Minister in the light of his known enthusiasm for research on GMOs. He expressed pride in having views on these subjects, and went on to say: "I am quite explicit in my views on these matters and I believe that that is a benefit rather than a hindrance to sensible decision-taking." I. and I believe others, had no difficulty with this. Clearly his advice to his colleagues would indeed be valuable.

However, he now tells us that, when GM food policy was discussed at the Cabinet committee on biotechnology, "I left the meeting."

Have we really reached the stage under new Labour that as soon as a minister really knows something about a subject, he can take no further part in policy discussions? It seems that Lord Sainsbury's expertise and enthusiasm is indeed "a hindrance" rather than a benefit. Or have I misunderstood something?

PATRICK JENKIN, House of Lords. jenkinp@parliament.uk February 18.

#### From Dr Rod Hudson

Sir, It seems that the provision of a six-metre "safety barrier" of sterile oilseed rape would have been sufficient to prevent even a single spore of genetically modified pollen from escaping into the wider environment (report, February 13).

I must remember that next summer when suffering from hay fever caused by plants situated miles away.

Yours faithfully. ROD HUDSON, 3 Alma Farm Road, Toddington. Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU5 6BG. February 17.

#### **Progressive Judaism**

From Rabbi Tony Bayfield, Chief Executive of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain

Sir, May I comment on two important points arising from your report today about the decision by the Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ) to create an associate presidency. The progressive (Reform and Liber-

all and Masorti movements have not the slightest interest in the creation of another Chief Rabbi. Our own movement, the RSGB, has an Assembly of Rabbis, the chair of which is occupied by a primus inter pures for a specified period of office.

Secondly, the vote was not taken by "Jewish community members" but by members of both faiths attending the meeting. The vote by the CCI to appoint an associate president is a welcome one which accords long-overdue recognition to the vital role that progressive Jewry has always played in interfaith work. It is a significant step towards a full presidency in due

In the meantime, however, the RSGB makes it clear that while L as chief executive of the largest of the Great Britain and the Union of Lib-

mooted as the first holder of the associate presidency, I will not accept this post unless it has the agreement of colleagues both within and beyond

progressive movements, have been

I will do nothing to endanger the unity of progressive Judaism as it recrives a long-sought and much deserved place and profile in the Jewish and wider community.

TONY BAYFIELD, Chief Executive. Reform Synagogues of Great Britain. The Sternberg Centre for Judaism. 80 East End Road, N3 2SY. admin@refsyn.org.uk Pebruary 17.

Yours faithfully

From Rabbi Dr Charles H. Middleburgh, Executive Director of the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues

Sir, It is wholly wrong to regard the creation of the post of associate president of the CCJ as a move towards the creation of a progressive "Chief Rabbi". Such a position is not in the sift of the CCJ, and is explicitly not the desire of the Reform Synagogues of

people. Children who grow up in lowincome families are more likely to leave school early, to have a lower school attendance and to have more contact with the police.

In January 1998, income support for a family with two young children after rent and council tax had been paid was £121.75 a week; half of the average income after rent and tax in the UK was £193.56 -- a difference of £71.81 a week. Income support, also after rent and tax, was £39.07 a week below the threshold necessary for good health. social cohesion and satisfactory standards of child development.

In the Welfare Reform Bill the DSS sets out to reduce the already inadequate levels of benefit when people do not turn up for an interview or do not accept this job or that training, based largely on the say-so of hundreds of officials at the benefit agencies around

This is a recipe for political disaster. We urge the Government to commission independent research into the cost of basic needs.

Yours sincerely. PAUL NICOLSON, Chairman of Trustees, Zacchaeus 2000 Trust, The Vicarage, Turville, Henley-on-Thames RG9 6QU. February 22.

#### A case of 'blackmail'? From Mr Anthony Rose

From the Reverend Paul Nicolson,

Sir. The Government is turning a blind eye and a deaf ear to any sug-

gestion that a cause of poverty is a lack of money. As the Welfare Reform

Bill goes into its second reading on

February 23, may I draw attention to

the inadequacy of the amount of

Sir Donald Acheson recently report-

empirical evidence comes from research

demonstrating that people whose incomes consist entirely of state benefits have in-

sufficient money to buy the items and ser-

This research is not commissioned

by the Department of Social Security.

The Health Committee of the House

of Commons concluded as long ago as

cannot comment with authority on the

adequacy of income support rates in the

The evidence is that the poorest in

the United Kingdom are sicker and

die on average five years younger than their more prosperous fellow citi-

zens, go without food at the end of the

week until the next gire can be cashed,

experience double the rate of divorce

of other social groups and have a higher rate of suicide among young

absence of research to support its view.

March 1992 that the Department

money paid in state benefits.

vices necessary for good health.

Chairman of the Trustees of the Zacchaeus 2000 Trust

Sir. I have recently acted for a company which dismissed an incompetent female sales representative.

Advised, free of charge, by a combimation of Acas and the Citizens Advice Bureau, the dismissed employee brought an action against my client for wrongful dismissal, sexual discrimination and sexual harassment. The amount claimed was £7,500. Inquiries of the company's personnel uncovered plenty of evidence of poor sales performance but none of sexual discrimination or harassment. The company offered £1,000 (with some misgivings about encouraging others), simply to dispose of the matter and its nuisance value.

The former employee refused the offer and I instructed counsel to act on the company's behalf. We then learned that the matter had been set down for a five-day hearing for the employ-ment tribunal in Newcastle upon Tyne. The company is based in the South of England.

The likely cost of this hearing (which would not be recoverable, even if the company were wholly successful) would greatly exceed the £7,500 Accordingly, the only commercial

view the company could take was to pay up. It agreed to do so. The employee, sensing victory, then piled on further demands for a letter of apology and for an open, glowing reference drafted by herself. I learned, after settlement of the

matter, that my client was the third consecutive employer this young lady had, effectively, blackmailed. How, in practical terms, can a company protect itself in such circumstances?

Yours faithfully, ANTHONY ROSE Knightsgate Offices, Church Road, Quenington, Gloucestershire GL7 5BN. February 20.

#### Mercenaries in Africa

From the Ambassador of Ukraine

Sir. There have been continuing references in The Times to the presence of alleged Ukrainian mercenaries in 18; February 11) and in Ethiopia (February 19).

The Government of Ukraine shares the concern repeatedly expressed by the UN Security Council at the escalating armed conflict in Sierra Leone and upholds its strong condemnation of all those who have afforded support, including the supply of arms and mercenaries, to the rebels in that country. As far back as 1990 Ukraine signed and later ratified the international convention against the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries, and, in accordance with

the criminal code of Ukraine, all these practices, as well as the participation in armed conflicts without authorisation of relevant government bodies, are considered to be criminal offences punishable by imprisonment of up to 12 years.

The Ukrainian authorities have received no evidence of the presence which you report; neither was such a presence confirmed in the latest special report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations observer mission in Sierra Leone. I would be grateful for any information on the participation of Ukrainian nationals in the conflicts in Sierra Leone and Ethiopia.

Yours sincerely, Y. VASSYLENKO, Embassy of Ukraine 60 Holland Park, WII 3SJ. Pebruary 19.

#### Labour's tax record

From Mr Nick Gibb, MP for Bognor Regis and Littlehampton (Conservative)

Sir, Peter Riddell ("Beware tax returns by politicians", February 17) should not give credence to Labour's fiddled tax figures. Labour have increased taxes by £40.7 billion over the course of this Parliament - over and above the tax plans inherited from the last Government - which can only mean that the tax burden will be higher under Labour.

As in so many areas, Labour are manipulating the presentation of the figures. They have altered the official definition of the tax burden, and the assumptions used in forecasting the tax take, so that comparisons with the

plans set out in November 1996 are almost impossible. Labour have also fiddled the figures by removing billions of pounds spent on the working families' tax credit from the tax burden, in order to massage down the headline figure. And Labour's tax burden numbers are based on growth forecasts which no one outside the Treasury believes.

Ken Livingstone recently admitted that "Gordon Brown has drama-tically increased taxes". He is right. No one should be in any doubt that taxes and the tax burden are rising under Labour.

Yours faithfully, NICK GIBB House of Commons.

(Shadow Treasury Spokesman). February 17.

existing post of "Chief Rabbi" has

done enough damage to Anglo-Jewry as it is, without the creation of another

The possible incumbent of the

associate presidency will be chosen by

the rabbis of the two movements in a

democratic election, and will then be

proposed to the CCJ. Should the CCJ

executive refuse the nominee, who

may or may not be Rabbi Tony

Bayfield, the post will remain empty

until such a time as the CCJ can be

persuaded to do the just thing and

appoint a progressive rabbi as a second president.

CHARLES H. MIDDLEBURGH.

Letters to the Editor for

publication should carry

a daytime telephone number.

They may be sent to a fax number

- 0171-782 5046 - or by

e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Union of Liberal & Progressive

Yours faithfully,

Synagogues.

February 17.

Executive Director,

The Montagu Centre.

21 Maple Street, WIP 6DS.

#### eral and Progressive Synagogues. The

From Mr Terry Curthoys

Sir, I have always believed that the quotation referred to by Dom Alberic Stacpoole in his letter (February 22) in fact was: "An Englishman considers himself a self-made man, and thereby relieves the Almighty of a dreadful responsibility."

TERRY CURTHOYS. Hillcot House, Bitterley

#### Muddled mythology

From Mr R. P. C. Plowden

Sir, "Oedipal fury drove son to murtoday's Times.

ed. According to Greek myth Oedipus killed his father. He slept with his mother, but was not aware of the relationship at the time. He was very upset when he found out, but he

Yours taithfully, R. P. C. PLOWDEN, 22 Prince Edward Mansions, Moscow Road, W2 4WA

Classical concerts income 'halved'

From Dr Donald Mitchell and others

Sir, On December 23, 1998, the board of the Performing Right Society (PRS). the monopoly responsible for the collection and administration of its 30,000 members' royalties earned from performances and broadcasts of their music, announced a decision that we believe will have the gravest consequences for classical music in this country.

The board has decided to withdraw the support PRS has provided for nearly 50 years to live performances of classical music (for example, of contemporary works in the annual Promenade Concerts), which in the UK earn, on average, only half the rovalties paid by venues in other Euro-pean countries. In recognition of this, PRS has hitherto doubled the actual royalties earned by equivalent match-

ing funding.
It costs less than 0.5 per cent of the society's £200 million turnover to provide this support, much of which is derived from otherwise unidentifiable income (eg. blanket licence income from pubs and hotels). But the effect of its withdrawal on British composers will be devastating — a reduction of around 45 per cent in their UK

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live-performance income. After thorough scrutiny, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission found in 1996 that this support had the broad approval of PRS membership. Furthermore, PRS undertook to seek the views of its membership if such support were to be reviewed or withdrawn. This arbitrary decision has been taken without adequate consultation of the membership and with no intelligible calculation of the inevitable consequences for musical culture in the UK, not only for composers but also for publishers and, in a broader perspective, concert-giving organisations, concert halls, orchestras and audiences. It is ironic that, as we write, the PRS, only now, after the decision has been taken, is distributing a questionnaire to its members.

This divisive action, is all the more unwelcome when the two great areas of "classical" and "pop" have become interdependent in ways undreamed of

The PRS must think again, or be brought to think again, before causing irreparable damage to the livelihood of a vital sector of this country's cultural life. How else will young British composers of the future be able to earn their living and make their contribution to the incomparable heritage that classical music represents?

Yours faithfully, DONALD MITCHELL (Chairman, The Britten Estate Ltd), MICHAEL BERKELEY. HARRISON BIRTWISTLE, PETER MAXWELL DAVIES SIMON RATTLE. MARK-ANTHONY TURNAGE, 83 Ridgmount Gardens, Torrington Place, WCIE 7AY. February 20.

#### Trials of sheepdogs

From Mrs Fiona West

Sir, Some 23 years ago I lived in London while helping to nurse my father through terminal cancer. An oasis of calm appeared each week on television in the form of One Man and His Dog. I now live in rural England with two Border collies resting at my feet as I write. The programme that introduced me to the symbiosis of spectacular countryside and these exceptionally clever dogs is to be axed by the BBC (report, February 17).

I conclude that the sheepdog's crime is its inability to use a saucepan or exhibit cheap humour, sex or bad

Deprived of its natural environment, the BBC Border collie is likely to be relegated to guest appearances on vets' programmes. The sheepdog's heritage and craft will therefore be lost to both town and country viewers.

FIONA WEST. Lea Cottage, School Road, Barnack. Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 3DZ.

The English identity

Ludlow. Shropshire SY8 3HR.

der", screams a lurid headline in This is confusion worse confound-

wasn't furious.



#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE** February 22: The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a CRASH (The Construction and Property Indus-try's Charity for the Single Homeless) Dinner at St James's Palace.

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 22: The Duke of Kent, Patron, British Menswear Guild, this afternoon

and Prizegiving at Earls Court, London SW5. THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK

February 22: Princess Alexandra. President, this morning visited the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Shop at 58 The Broadway, Wimbledon, Lon-

#### Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will arrend a reception for the LEPRA 75th anniversary, Quest for Dignity, art competition at the Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, SW7, at 7.15.

The Duke of Edinburgh, president, will preside at an extraordinary general meeting of the Cen-tral Council of Physical Recreation at St James's Palace at 11.00; and will attend the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee luncheon at the Savoy Hotel at 12.45.

The Duke of York will attend a reception for the NSPCC at St James's Palace, at 6.30. Prince Edward, patron, London Mozart Players, will hold a musi-cal soirée and dinner at Bucking-ham Palace at 6.45.

The Princess Royal patron. National Association of Victim Support Schemes, will launch the Victim Support's Silver Jubilee, at Cran-mer House, 39 Brixton Road, London SW9, at 10.30; and will anend the National Sporting Club's Calcuna Cup luncheon at the Cafe Royal at 12.45.

The Duke of Gloucester, patron, Friends of the Gibraltar Heritage Society, will attend the annual meeting and reception at the Imperial War Museum, London, SEI, at 6.40.

#### British Korean Veterans

The British Korean Veterans Association will be holding an international reunion in London from July 18 to 23 for the 22 countries that took part in the Korean War 1950-53. All UK military (Tri-Service. Royal Marines and Merchant Navy), civil and other personnel who were involved directly or indirectly during the war, whether members of the BKVA or not, are

invited to take part.

There will be a service of commemoration and thanksgiving in St Paul's Cathedral, a parade on Horse Guards, and a please write, including a sae, to VA. 39 Spring Street, London W2 IJA.

#### Birthdays today

Mr Bill Alexander, theatre direcor, 51; the Duke of Beaufort, 71; Miss Pam Blundell, fashion designer. 32; Mr Jermyn P. Brooks, global managing partner, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, 60; Lady Digby, 65; Lord Ezra, 80; Mr Frank, Gerstenberg, Principal, George Gerstenberg, Principal, George Watson's College, Edinburgh, 58; Mr Nicholas Kenyon, Controller, BBC Proms and Millennium, 48; Mr John Lewis, Head Master, Eton College, 57: the Earl of Lincoln, 86; Mr Anton Mosimann, chef. 52: Lord St Levan, 80; Miss Helena Sukova, tennis player, 34; Lord Tugendhat, 62; Mr David Ward, former President, Law Socie-

Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs J.F.Miller

The sixtieth anniversary of the marriage of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Peter Miller was celebrated by Father Phelim Rowland, assisted by Dom Oliver Holt in the Cathedral Church of St Michael and St George, Aldershot, on Saurday, Alexander Miller and Mr Charles Miller, grandsons, read the lessons. Mr Ian Bostridge sang a Bach aria and Miss Clara Epan, granddaughter, flute.

Egan, granddaughter, flute, played a Handel sonata. A reception was held at the Frimley Hall Hotel, Camberley.

Lecture

Goldsmiths College, University of London Professor Cho-Ho Chu, Professor of Mathematics, will deliver the inaugural lecture "The Art of Mathematics" at Goldsmiths College tonight. Admission is free. Telephone 0171 919 7957 for further information. Goldsmiths College, University of London, New Cross, London SEI4 6NW.

#### Luncheon

Monday Luncheon Club
The Hon Sir David Gore-Booth was the principal guest at a luncheon of the Monday Luncheon Club held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel.

Mr Roland Shaw presided.



Frank Smith, who has been working since 1974 to reopen the canal, at the entrance to the Standedge Tunnel

#### £30m scheme to reopen derelict Pennine canal

By Russell Jenkins

THE historic Huddersfield Narrow Canal, which once joined England by water across the Pennines, is to be restored and reopened early in the millennium at a cost of £30 million.

The 20 miles of waterway. which passes through Brit-ain's longest, highest and deepest canal tunnel, kept the factories and cotton mills of the Industrial Revolution stocked with coal and raw

Begun in 1794 by Benjamin Outram, a Derbyshire engi-neer and completed by Thomas Telford in the early 1800s, it was the workhorse of the canal network, linking Hud-dersfield, the Tame and Coine valleys with industrial Manchester.
English Partnerships, the

Government's regeneration agency, has pledged £12 million and the Millennium Commission another £14.8 million towards the cost of removing the remaining 19 blockages along the route. Work is

ELWES – Jeremy Jervsse Geoffrey Philip suddenly in London on 22nd February 1999 in his 78th

year. Funeral private at Elsham Hall. A Memoria

Service will be held on a date to be announced late Donations to the Orchid Cancer Appeal, Department of Medical

Department of Medical Oncology, St Bartholomew's Hospital.

FAULK - On 20th February 1999, at home, Dr Barbara Faulk, wife of Malcolm and mother of Matthew

and mother of Matthew and Harriet. Funeral service at St John's Church, Winchester on Friday 25th February at 2pm. Family flowers only but donations in her memory to Help The Agod or Crists 4/o Juo Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester SO23 GHU.

channels, build new bridges, repair aqueducts and tunnels and refurbish damaged locks. The work is due for completion by April 2001. More than 400 jobs will be created by the redevelopment of the canal which stretches from Ashtonunder-Lyne, in Tameside,

through Oldham and across the Pennines to Huddersfield. A visitors' centre will be created in a converted British Waterways warehouse at the end of the Standedge Tunnel, where people will be taken back to the time when narrow-boatmen had to lie on the prow and "leg" their boats through the tunnel.

For Frank Smith, general secretary of the Hudderstield Canal Society, and his fellow members it is a dream come true. They have been working since 1974 to restore the canal and complete the "Pennine ring" alongside the Leeds-Liv-erpool and the Rochdale ca-

They formed the Hudders-This feat of pre-Victorian field Canal Company with continuing to reopen the British Waterways and Old-engineering hewn out of rock entroute - a long-held dream Over-Seas League held last night many infilled sections, dredge ham. Tameside and Kirklees in appalling conditions, has of narrow-boat enthusiasts.

councils for that purpose. They had much to do. Although the canal was used in the First World war, the last commercial traffic passed along it in November 1921. It closed altogether in 1944 and rapidly became derelict.

Since then its 74 locks have been ripped out, its channel covered over and even working stretches silted up and vandalised.

The canal's jewel is the Standedge Tunnel, three miles long and built at a cost of 50 lives. Workmen, work-ing by candlelight, blasted every inch with black powder until they had forged a tunnel eight-feet wide connecting the two counties.

long fallen into disuse and is blocked by rockfalls and made unsafe by the tremors of passing trains.

"During the 16 years they spent building the tunnel, they used millions of can-dles," said Mr Smith. "Locals were stealing them, so they introduced red dye into the wax. They were probably the first coloured candles to be used in this country. The odd body or two used to be dredged up from the tunnel. Once in the last century, they were looking for a lost boatman when they pulled up the

body of a woman."

Once the work is completed, it will be possible to take a boat from Yorkshire to Lancashire and return via a differ-

#### **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr R.H. Burdall and Miss F.J. Munton

The engagement is announced between Richard, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Robert Burdall, of Grindleford, Derbyshire, and Fleur, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Munton, of

Lieutenant J.A. Craig, RN, and Lieutenant C.L. Brown, RN

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr Christopher oetween John Susan Fahey, of Halifax, West Yorkshire, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kingsley Brown, of Stranraer,

Mr N.O. Hamall and Miss A.J.R. John

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Mr and Mrs Tom Hassall, of Wheatley, Oxford, and Amelia, eldest daughter of Captain and Mrs Michael Johnson, of Fareham, Hamps

Mr A.P. Ilias and Miss S.J. Troiano The engagement is announced between Allan, son of Mr and Mrs

Peter Ilias, of Kensington, London, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Louis Rago, of Morristown, New Jersey, USA.

Mr C.J.E. James and Miss P. Welborn

**Dinners** 

The engagement is announced between Charles, eidest son of the late Mr Charles James and of Mrs James, of Sidoup, Kent, and Pauline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Roland Lamb Welborn, of Sompting, West Sussex.

Mr J.D. Lloyd and Miss S.J. Brunt

The engagement is announced between Jonathan David, younger son of Mr and Mrs R.H. Lloyd, of son of Mr and Mrs K.H. Ludyt, of Bury Bank Cottage. Meaford, Staffordshire, and Sharon Julie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs L.F. Brunt, of Crown Cottages, Stone,

Mr M.A.F. Morgan and Miss H.C. Stanier

The engagement is announced between Magnus, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Robin Morgan, of Nawton, North Yorkshire, and Henrietta, elder daughter of Sir Beville Stanier, Bt. and Lady Stanier, of Whaddon, Buckingham

Mr B.S. Parker and Miss S.M. Liardet

The engagement is announced between Barry, younger son of Mr and Mrs Allan Parker, of Winchester, Hampshire, and Sophie. younger daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs Guy Liardet, of Meonstoke, Hampshire,

Mr J.R. Stickells
and Miss A.M. Robertson
The engagement is announced
between Jonathan, son of Mr and
Mrs Richard Stickells, of Westbury. Wilshire, and Andrea, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Robertson, of Christchurch, New

Mr N.K. Wright and Miss S.M. Read The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Donald Wright, of Cheam. Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Read, of Salisbury.

Asian Business Network Mr Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, was the guest of honour at a Gala Dinner of the Asian Business Network held at the Radisson SAS Portman Hotel, Portman Square, London, on Thursday, February 18. Mr Keith Vaz, MP, presided. Mr Allan Leighton, Chief Executive of Asda Stores Ltd. gave an address. Among those present were

Finding these present were:

Fr Mand Yacoub, Mr Russell Greig, Mr
Nadhmi Auchi, Lord Harrin of Harringey,
Mr Duncan Hopper, Mr Amin Ali, Mr
Mike Low, Mr Harrin Patel, Mr Chris
Kelly, Dr Khalid Hameed, Mr Chris Major,
Mr O.P. Gulad, Professor Liam Domaldson,
Mr Hermant Patel, Mr Brain Harney, Sir
Nicholas Fenn, Mr James Cann.

Cardiff Business Club The President of Cardiff Business Club, Mr C.N. David Cole, and the Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Captain N. Lloyd-Edwards, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, last night. The guest speaker was Dr Thomas Stuttaford, Medical Correspondent of The Times. Mr Iain Breckenridge presided.

Meeting
Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Richard Bourne was the speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Group of the Royal at Over-Seas House, St James's.

#### Service dinner

Oxford University Air Squadron The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University and the Chief of the Air Staff were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Oxford University Air Squadron beld last night in Oxford. Squadron Leader K.R.H. Girdwood, Commanding Officer, presided. Among others present ware

The Lord Mayor of Oxford, the Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Commitments), the Air Officer Commending and Communitant, RAF College Cranwell, the Vice-Charcellor of Oxford Brookes University, the President of Trainy College, the Warden of Keble College, the Principal of St Hilday College and the Chichele Professor of the History of War. Oxford.

**Anniversaries** 

BIRTHS: Samuel Pepys, diarist, London, 1633; George Frederick Handel, composer, Halle, Germany, 1685; John Walter II, chief proprietor of The Times 1812-47.
London, 1776; Victor Fleming, film director, Pasadena, California,

DEATHS: Sir Joshua Reynolds. Ist President of the Royal Academy 1768-92, London, 1792; John Keats, poet, Rome, 1821; Sir Edward Elgar, Master of the King's Musick 1924-34, Worcester, 1934; Stan Laurel (born Arthur Stanley Jefferson), comedian, Santa Monica, California, 1965; L.S. Lowry, painter, Głossop, Derbyshire, 1976.

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We are ruled by Christ's love for its. We are certain that if one person died for everyone then all of us have died. And Christ did die for all of us. He died so we could no longer live for ourselves, but for the one who died and was raised to live for us. 2 Corinthians 5.14-15 (CEV).

BIRTHS

BEAUMONT - On February 23rd 1998, to Christine and Phillip, a lovely daughter Francesca Louise. BEEN - On February 18th at The Portland Hospital, to Alice (née Machin) and

CARTER - On February 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Anna (Gorman) and States of Louisian and States of Louisian

CATOR - On February 20th at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria (née Pank) and Albemarie, a son, Sebastian Edward. CREMA - On February 17th at The Portland Hospital,

to Shelly and Dennis, a DERRICK - On February 14th 1999, to Susie (née Barker) 1999, to Susie (née E and Andrew, a son,

DISCHAMPS - On February 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Fabienne and Philippe, a daughter, Lactitia, a sister for Matthisu and Celine.

DOCHERTY - On January HARREY - On February 3rd

HAWKRES - On 15th February, to Didi (née Fletcher) and Toby, a daughter, Harriet Rosie, a sister for Fenella and Cus.

Hill - On February 18th at The Portland Hospital, to

HUON-DUMENTAT - On Portland Hospital, to Audrey and Bernard, a daughter, Alaxira Clar, a sister for Melea Pierrette.

JARDINE - On 21st February to Claire (née Griffith) and Andrew, a daughter, Iona. JORGENSEN - Oπ 18th February in Oxford, to Martin and Jane (née Heelas), a son. Alexander Michael Heelas-Jorgensen, a brother to George and BIRTHS

LEVY - On February 15th at The Portland Hospital, to Caron and Robert, a daughter, Jessica. Both

ORENZI STAD - On February 15th 1999 at The Portland Hospital, to Jacqueline and Dimitri, a Jacqueline and Dimitri, a Jacqueline and Dimitri, a Jacqueline and Dimitri, a Jacqueline and Dimitrical Lorenzo, brother for Giusi Lorente.

entedet - On January 30th to Sozanne and Fathi, a beautiful daughter, Amen!.

CMAN - On February 16th at The Portland Hospital, to Amy (née Koch) and David, a son, Alexander.

February 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Constantina (Letrou) and George, a daughter, Elizabeth Joenna Ariadne

ROWE - On February 17th 1999, to Tamara (née Warner) and Nigel, a son, Felix James Ernest, a brother for Amelia.

SHOON - On February 14th 1999 at The Portland Hospital, to Allison and Michael, a son, Zachary SMPER - On February 6th 1999 of Middleham, North Yorkshire, to Lisa (née Bocarro) and Stephen, a son, Haydn Isaac, a brother for Ben.

TENNANT - On February 16th at The Portland Hospital, to Carole and Ivo, 8 son, Rory James, a brother for Camilla and

WALSH - On February 18th at The Portland Hospital, to Charmian and Tony, a beautiful son, Zach, a breather for Elliot.

WESON - On February 19th daughter, Lucy Anna

MARRIAGES

RUKIN-CARTY - The marriage took place on 13th February 1999 at St Nicholas Parish Church, Chiatchurat, between Steven, son of Mr and Mrs William Rukin and Nicole Surie daughter of Mrs Suzie, daughter of Mrs Kathleen and the late Mr

**DEATHS** 

BEGGS - Duncan, Helicop SEGGS - Duncan, Helicopter pilot. Aged 40. Unexpectedly died in hospital on 13th February after an operation, Funeral in St Michael's Church, Greenway Road, Runcorn at 2 pm on 24th February. All other details from Davis McMulian, Runcorn tel 01928 591103.

Crematorium at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to RNIB,

Flowers to E Sargeant & Son, Windsor, 01753

DEVAS - Michael Bertrand.
At home on February 20th 1999, aged 78. Husband of Catherine, jather of Stephen, Angels.
Magdalen, Elizabeth and the late Francis and Philip. Funeral on Monday March 1st at 12 noon at St Catherine's Catholic Church, Chipping Campden. Memorial Service in London will be announced.

EAST - Timothy died 14th February 1999 aged 32. He will be eadly missed by all his friends at News International, Until next

BEAL - Ronald Albert, on 20th February, peacefully in Princess Christians Hospital, Windsor, Dearly loved sweetheart of the late Vera Muriel Beal and loving father of Rosanne and lockie. Service at 2pm 4th March at South West Middlesex Cremsterium. Flowers to E Sarceant &

BENDER - Professor Arnold Eric. Died peacefully at home on 21st February. Will be sadly missed by his wife Deborah, his sons and grandchildren and all his friends. Has donated his body to medicine. No flowers please. Donstions if wished to Arthritis Research Campaign. Ashtead. Leatherhead and District Branch. c/o Mr F.5. McLean. If Woodfield Lane, Ashtead, Surrey KT21 ZBQ.

CHESTER - Cyril Waugh died 19th February 1999 aged 87 of Great Broughton North Yorkshire. Dearly loved husband of Meg. father of Margaret. Barbara. Richard and David. Father-in-law of Sarah and Janet. Much loved grandfather. Funeral on 25th February at St Bede's Chapel, Toesside Crematorium at 2 pm.

GLENDMENNG - George R. suddenly on 19th February in Aberfeldy Hospital aged 85. Husband of the late Peggy, Enther of Alison and grandfather of Rowens and Nicolas. Former Chief Constable of Perthabitre & Kincoss-shire and Wittshire. Service at Perth Crematorium at 1.45pm ou Friday 26th February. Family flowers only.

GOODWill - Ivan Hamilton on Saturday February 20th 1999, aged 62, peacefully after a short illness.
Captain (retired) Royal Artillety, and formerly member of the Stock Exchange, partner of Popham Lyon & Smith and latterly of Laing & Cruickshank, Beloved husband of Jean and Cruickshank. Beloved husband of Sean and dearly loved father of Peter and Rosemary, [ather-in-law of Lyb and John, grandfather of Alexander, Oliver, Bed. Jo and Josh and brother of Kathleen and Robert.

Franki services at the Funeral service at the Parish Church of S: Mary the Virgin, Shipton Under Wychwood, Oxfordshire on Friday February 26th at 11.45em followed by

at 11.43cm followed by private cremation at Kingsdown. Family flurents only please. Donations, if desired. payable to Macmillan Cancar Bullel may be sent to E Laylor and Son. 21 Corbett Road, Carterton. Oxford to whom all anquiries should be made on Carterton 01993 842421.

GREG - Meriel de Mouchet "Tuppy" (née Richardson). Pescerully at home on 17th February 1999, after a long iliness borne, in her we with increasing

26th February, 12 noon, No flowers, but donations to British Lung Foundation, 0171 831 6831. GROMAI - Carmen, formerly of Sotheby's, Bond Street, died pescafully at home in Florence on Monday 15th February, aged 88. Her femeral took piace at the church of Fonte Lucente, Executive 1988. church of Fonte Lucente, Fissole on 18th February. A memorial service to celebrate Carmen's life will be amounced in the spring. Much respected, much much loved and ruly nissed by all whose lives she touched.

HARDENG - In loving memory of my dear Aunt Margaret Gaynor Harding, who passed away on 28th January 1959. Free to fly, may your spirit be kindled with your family that have passed on before. Your loving nice. Betty Frees passed on before. Your loving niece. Betty Froese & family from across the

HASLEGRAVE - Brian of Braunston peacefully at home after a short illness on Friday 19th February 1999 aged 85 years. Funeral Service will take place at Braunston Parish Church on Thursday 25th February 1999 at 12 props our gonzuons if desired to Cancer Research c/o Fords of Oakham, 8 Church Street, Oakham, Rotland LE15 6AA, tel: (01572) 723654.

HEELEY - Margaret Lesiey on 18th February after a courageous fight against cancer. Loved forever Colin. Emma and Harry. JOWETT - Janet (formerly Janet Nicol) of Ford, Wiveliscombe, Somerset, died peacefully on 18th February 1999 aged 30 years. Funered Tauston Crematorium, Friday 26th February at 3.30 pm. Donations for Amnesty International c/o Thom

Brothers FD. High Street Wallington, Somerset. 01823 662009.

Kil BORM - Douglas,
peacefully at home in
Worthing on 18th
February 1999, aged 89
Beloved husband of
Margaret, father of Robin
and Peter and grandfather
of Isabel and Nicholas.
Enquiries to H. D. Tribe
Ltd. 01903-234516.

KITSON - On February 19th 1999, peacefully at home, Miss Barbara Kitson, beloved sister of the lats Elisabeth, much loved Elisabeth, much loved cousin and godmother and a dear friend of Cecelia. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church,

Comant, Oxford on Friday February 26th at 10.30 am. No flowers, donations if desired for the NSPCC: e/a Edward Carter (F/D), 107 South Avenue, Abingdon, MATHERON - Donnie beloved father and grandfather died unddenly on 10th February aged 71. The family wish to thank everyone for their support and sympathy and those who made Donnie's life so full and happy.

MRLING - Nins at home in her 85th year on Friday 19th February, formerly married to the late Lau Lauritzen of Denmark an Lauritzen of Denmark and widow of Captain Ian Hamilton-Black RN Retd. and Geoffrey Milling and dear friend of Robert Talbot for the past 16 years. The funeral service will take place at Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge, on Friday 26th Trinity Church, Bembridge, on Friday 26th February at 2 pm followed

remany at the partition and her ashes laid to rest in her family grave in Oslo. Flowers or densations for the Holy Trimity Restoration Fund. c/o Wesver Bros. Ltd. Bembridge LW. 01983 872598. MORRIS - Pescafully at St Andrews on Fridsy 19th February 1999, Margaret Isobel (Peg) in her 9 ist year, formerly of 20 High Street, Elie, Fife. Dearly loved wife of the late Tom Morris and much loved mother of Nick and Hugh and grandmother of

mother of Nick and frugh and grandmother of Oliver, Mungo and Laura. Funeral Service in St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, Elie, on Friday 26th February at 11.30 sm. Interment thereafter in Kilconquhar Cemetary at approximately 12.15 pm. MORTIMER - Mand (née MORTIMER - Maud (née
Snarri Pascefully on 20th
February 1999 aged 83 at
Hampden House
Harrogate. Welow of Jack
Mortimer and Mother of
Barry. Family Funeral
Friday. Memorial Service
Staveley Parish Church
Sunday 28th March 1999
at 12 Noon.

ROGERS - Henry (Harry) Augustus, formarly of H.M. Diplomatic Service, died on Friday February 19th 1999 at Eastbourne,

MOIT - On February 20th 1999 Henry 'George' Mott MBE, peacefully in his 94th year. Belowed by his late wife Dobble, dearly loved by his stepdaughted loved by his stepdaughters Judy, Clare and B, darling 'Grampar' to their children and held in great

chiners and seid in graffection by his many nephews and nieces. Funeral Service at St Michael & Church, Betchworth on Tuesday March 2nd at 11.30 am Pamily flumers on the Pamily flumers on the service of the service o Family flowers only. Donations if wished to the Plaisterer's Company Charitable Trust c/o Stoneman Funerai Service. Doran Court, Reigate Road, Redhill. Memorial Service to be held in London, details be announced later.

PATTERSON - Hugh Foggan, aged 74, died peacefully at home after a long illness. Formerly Secretary King's College London and Colonial Service, Nigeria. Funeral to be arranged. No flowers please, donations if desired to Leonard Cheshire Foundation. All enquiries to Funeral Director L.C. Elli & Son, 01747 860361.

PROBRER - Laurel, died pescefully on 22nd February in Melbourne, Acutralia. Wife of the lais H.H. (Bill) and beloved mother of Simon, Richard, Cynthis and Gloria. POPE - Reverend Rodney John, M.A., B.D., peacefully at home on 20th February 1999, Beloved husband of Edna, father of

husband of Edna, father of Terry and Chris, grandfather of Jonathan, Joanna, Wendy and Steven. Funeral 2pm, Wadnesday 24th February at St Andrew's. Curry Rivel, Someraet. Memorial and Thankagiving Service, followed by interment. 2pm Thursday 25th February at SS Peter and Paul, Bardfield Saling, Essex. No flowers please. Donations if desired, to Bardfield Saling P.C.C. or RAF Benevolent Fund, both c/o J. Vila and Son, Puckington, Ilminster, ickington, Ilminater, imerset, TA19 9JA

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

ROSS - Arthur Duncau, on Pebruary 21st, aged 83, peacefully at home. Treasured husband of Helen; loving and selfless father of Richard. Christophes and Michael.

inther of Richard.
Christopher and Nicholes; father-in-law of Hermione, Jane and Jane, and grandiather of Rosanna, Amy, Charlotte, Chiče, James, Arabella and Hamlyn, Funeral, Friday 25th February, 130 pm, St Peters, High Cross, Fruxfield. Family flowers only. Donations please to The Rosemary Foundation, c/o Funeral Services (Petersfield) 141, 19 The Square, Petersfield. GU32 3HR.

SHERLOCK - On February 18th. Peacefully at Pelixstowe, Doctor Alexander Sherlock C.B.E., late M.E.P. Aged 77 C.B.E., late M.E.P. Aged 77 years. Much loved husband of Eileen. A dear father and grandpa. Funeral Service at St John's Church, Felixstowe on March 2nd et 2.00 pm. Enquires to Gordon Rodwell Funeral Service, 78 Bt Andrews Road, Felixstowe. 01394 671999.

SMITH - Charles Gordon on 20th February 1999. Emeritus Fellow of Keble College, husband of Joan, inther of Hugh, Thomas and Patrick. Funeral Service on Friday 28th February at noon in Keble College Chapel. Private cremation follows. No flowers please.

STRONG - Joan, formerly of Merriot, Somerast died pescefully in Crowborough on 22nd February, Widow of Lt. Cal Charles Strong OBE and much laved mother of Juliet, Adels and Sonia and loved gracemother and loved grandmother and great-grandmother Cremation private.

TOWNESHID - Dukcie
Florence (note Boaley) on
Florence (note Boaley) on
February 20th, aged 79,
peacefully, after an illness
borns with great courage
and dignity. Beloved and
devoted wife of Ted,
darking mother of Fay and
Lindsay and mother-inlaw of Tony and deerly
loved grandmother of
Kristina, Andrew, Robert
and Lisa. She will be sadly
missed by her family and
friends. Funeral Service at
St Mary Megdalene
Church, Crowmarsh
Offford on Friday, 36th
February at 3 pm followed
by interment. Family
Illowers only, donations if
desired to the Churchill
Hospital, I.C.P. or Sir
Michael Sobell House
Hospica, Headington,
Oxford (o' Howard
Chadwick Funeral
Service, Clockhouse
Cottage, Benson Lane,
Crowmarsh Gifford,
Wallingford, Oxon. OX10
SED.

WARWICK - Pip of Benton.
Newcastle, Artist and
Lecturer in Sculpture,
Newcastle University.
Died pescefully on
February 20th sged 56.
Beloved husband of
Catherine and father of
Rupert and Oliver. Funera
at \$1 Bartholomew's,
Longbanton, Newcastle or
Friday February 26th at
2pm. Family flowers only.
Any donations please to
The Marie Curie Centre,
Newcastle NE4 68S.

Williams - Gwiadya, suddenly on 19th February 1999 at Homington House. Much loved Namy to the Radnor family for 44 years Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Alderbury, Tessday 2nd March at 3pm. Further enquiries to Chris White, 12 South Street, Wilton, Wilts 5P2 GIS. Tel 01722 744691.

IN MEMORIAM -

PRIVATE

HENSEY - Peter Joseph.
Loved and missed every STURGES - Simon William
on 21st February.
peccafully in hospital,
aged 85. Funeral
Wedneeday 24th February
at 2 pm at Parish Church
of St Andrew and St Mary.
Grantch as Exquiries
to: Cambridge Funeral
Levices. Tel 01221 418255. BIRTHDAYS

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#### Forthcoming marriage Market Lines

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**OBITUARIES** 

Sarah Kane, playwright,

She was born in 1971.

1995, catapulted her into a

notoriety unknown since Ed-

the same theatre almost thirty

accompanied by cries of out-

ought to have become accus-

tomed to illusions of atrocity

on stage, but declared themselves all but physically sick

watching her scenes of homosexual rape, eye-gouging, tongue-munching and baby-

Denounced famously by the

late Jack Tinker in the Daily

Mail as "a disgusting feast of

filth," Blasted inevitably

played to capacity houses for

the remainder of its run. Just

ter, to such an extent that her

last play, Crave, was present-

ed by Paines Plough theatre

company, where she had be-

come writer-in-residence, un-

der a pseudonym. This ruse

enabled her to see her work

performed in front of an

audience unswayed by the influence of the Blasted phe-

First seen at the Traverse

during the 1998 Edinburgh

Festival, from where it trans-

ferred to London (again to the

Royal Court). Crave showed

that its author had moved a

considerable way from her

brutal debut. Violent images

were certainly present, but the

four speakers remained only

that, seated in chairs facing

the audience, talking of hu-manity's relentless demand.

for love and love's relentless

demands.

eating.

her first play, Blast-

SARAH KANE



The violence of Kane's plays caused a storm of outrage at the Royal Court not seen since the heyday of Edward Bond

touches she might well have learnt from Beckett, tantalising her audience with scraps of information unmistakably vital to her characters' experience yet impossible to position exactly in their story.

The play contained anguished yearnings to have a baby and a fierce longing to find a lasting relationship, but the speeches of the young girl also included recollections of childhood abuse.

To what extent these feelings, surfacing throughout her work, were influenced by personal experience is not certain, nor was it ever possible to identify her with any of her characters. But in a rare interview she revealed that for this play she had drawn upon the diaries and poems she wrote when she was 17. At that time she was just

emerging from what she has

called her family's obsessive

Christianity. "It was spirit-

These mighty matters were illumined by flashes of luminous language as well as by filled, born-again lunacy. So the reading I did in my formative years was the incredible violence of the Bible."

She gave up religion, as she said, "to get a life", but it was these formative years which created the violent imagery contained in Blasted. Set in an hotel room ostensibly in Leeds, though a Leeds enduring a Bosnian-style civil war, the play traces the ordeal of a journalist trapped and tortured by a depraved mercenary until, left alone and blinded, he can survive only by eating the baby buried under the floorboards.

The story developed with the simplicity of a Greek myth and, for all its terrible contents, proved distressingly watchable - possibly because she sought to express on the stage the horrors seen nightly on television newscasts.

Reeling from her unwanted celebrity. Kane directed two

plays at the Gate Theatre, and a year ago saw her second play, Cleansed, produced in the main house of the Royal

This nightmare of a play, apparently about love but choked with amputation and other grossness, suggested that she was still trapped in the world of her first dark play. With Crave there were signs that she was emerging from it, but her own comments about it painted a darker picture. "Some people seem to find release at the end of it," she observed, "but I think it's only the release of death. In my other plays it was the release of deciding to go on living despite the fact that it's

Sarah Kane was born in modest circustances in Essex where she received her education. Drama gripped her from early in her life and she showed a precocious under-

standing of both the classical and modern theatre. At school she directed, first, Chekhov's The Bear and later the Joan Linlewood musical Oh, What a Lovely War.

From school she went to Bristol University to study drama, assuming that she would become a director. She came away with a first-class degree, but in the process she discovered that there was, by now, very little she wanted to direct.

So she wrote a monologue which was performed first at Bristol and then at the Edinburgh Festival. After graduating, she moved to London where she lived on state benefits for some time, during which she wrote two further monologues. Then the Royal Court took an interest in her work, and it was her first play for the theatre that shot her overnight from nowhere to

#### JOHN SMITHES

John Smithes, port trader, died on January 22 aged 88. He was born on April 19, 1910.

WITH the death of John Smithes, the port trade has lost one of its most notable characters. In his day he was the envy of every taster in the trade, and with his father Archie and his partners Reggie Cobb and Felix Vigne, he created the distinctive Cockburn style of port. He was a legend among the wine farmers in the Upper Douro, and no less so in the tasting room in Gaja, where he elevated the simple act of spitting to almost

an art form.

After schooling at Anesbury and St Edward's, Oxford, Smithes joined Cockburn's London office in 1930. This was a time when dark suits, stiff collars and bowler hats were de rigueur in the City, but somehow Smithes was able to get away with a rather dubious tweed jacket, brown brogues and a rakishly angled trilby. This was doubtless because he was destined for Oporto and the production side of the business.

Before leaving for Portugal, he married Nancy Scott, who was to be his devoted wife for 65 years. He became a partner in the Oporto company in 1938, but soon he and Nan were back in Britain, both having joined the RAF.

Smithes had been a schoolfriend of Douglas Bader. which may have influenced his wish to become a fighter pilot. He duly flew the Beaufighter, which by all accounts he found difficult to land. After he had inflicted on several machines more damage than the enemy ever achieved, his superiors decided that he was better suited to being a rear gunner and observer. Those who later experienced his somewhat haphazard handling of ageing Ford Prefects tended to agree with the RAF.

Having returned to Portugal in 1946, Smithes was quick

Standard Model of



Smithes: a viticultural innovator even in the 1930s

to renew his passion for port: he loved the intricacies of its blending, the cooperage, the quintas, the wine and people of the Douro and Gaia who helped him to produce some of the finest wines of the century.

In viticulture he was an innovator. As early as the 1930s he had established a vineyard at Tue where he experimented with the planting and cloning of individual grape varieties 40 years before this became the norm in the Douro. He was a prime mover in the introduction of modern wineries and technology during the 1960s. He was a colourful personal-

PARTICLES AND INTERACTION

ity, with a notorious temper, but with great compassion. With his wide-brimmed hat and a shotgun over his shoulder, he was never happies than when sitting in a Rabelo boat, looking for partridge in the Douro, or when out with friends on the marshes of Aveiro after snipe.

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On his retirement in 1970. he bought a property in Strete, South Devon, which he laid out in the manner of a Douro quinta, with terraces and even a small vineyard. He maintained his connections with Gaia and the Douro by visiting at vintage time and again in the spring to taste the new wine. At home he was active in local affairs. He donated a field to the people of Strete, on which he directed the planting of a wood.

His wife predeceased him three years ago. They had no children.

#### PROFESSOR HENRY KENDALL

Henry Kendall, physicist and Nobel laureate, died on February 2 aged 72. He was born on December 9, 1926.

HENRY KENDALL died while taking photographs during a scuba dive, a lifelong passion that he could have made into a career. But he chose instead to become a physicist, and he shared a Nobel Prize for the

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discovery of quarks, the most fundamental pieces of matter. While this ensures his place in the history of science, he will perhaps be most widely known as co-founder, during the Vietnam War, of the Union of Concerned Scientists, which he chaired for a quarter of a century up to his death.

Henry W. Kendall was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and

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Pebruary 1999 presented to He Majesty's High Court of Justice for

Majesty's High Count of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of share capital and reduction of the share capital and reduction of the share capital and reduction of the shore-massed. The En-Lands PLC (hereinafter call the Company). By Special Resolution expressed to take effect forthwith and conditional upon the proposed conditional upon the proposed conditional upon the proposed conditional to the Company will be increased to E50,000 divided the SOO,000 Cettinny States of 10 peace each ARD NOTICE IS FURTHER CIVEN that the said Fettiem is directed to be heard be-

replicient dayon upon one son re-tition is discussed to be heard be-fore the Registrar of the Compa-nies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand Loudon, WCZA ZLL on Wednesday the 3rd day of March. 1999. ANY Chellion or Simulation of the Company desir-

Shareholder of the Company desh-ing to oppose the making of an Or-

proposed concellerion of the proposed concellerion of share capital and reduction of the share paration account the share

capital and reduction of the steam pennium account should appear at the time of hearing in pennium or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Pettign will be furnished to any such person re-quiring the same by the undernoun-tioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

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all his life. He showed no sign of future academic brilliance while at school, his forte appearing to be outdoor activities. It was a passion that remained with him through-

out his life and appears to have led to his untimely death. Nonetheless, he had a natural curiosity in mechanical and electrical things, and his fa-

IN THE BIRES COURT OF THE THE

COMPANIES COURT

NO.01065 OF 1999

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IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1986 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 21th February 1999 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the there expired of the Company from £12,184,368.50 to £11,635,368.50

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AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN
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NY Translator or Sharsholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the saids of an Order for the confingation of the said cancellation of cumulative positrence shares of £1 said should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Perition will be furnished to say such person requiring the same by the undermostroned solicitors on payment of the segulated charge for the same. Dated this 19th day of February 1999. Addissing Booth & Co

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had his home in its environs ther, a successful businessman, encouraged him along this path.

The course of his future life was determined in 1945 with the explosion of the atomic bombs over Japan. At the time he was training at the American Merchant Marine Academy and he felt that with the awesome release of nuclear power, one of the great secrets

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ERICHS Would any decembrat of Chemies Alam Certies Patkins who died 1960 or of his cousin George Algemon Perkins plans telephone 01749 673197.

of nature had been revealed. This helped to awaken his latent excitement about science; later, as the human implications of those events began to be understood, his concern for the social implications of science and technology also rapidly developed. In 1946 he resigned from the Navy and entered Amherst College, in Massachusetts, graduating in mathematics.

With an old school friend he spent the summers running a diving and salvage operation. and wrote his first books on underwater photography and on shallow-water diving. The President of Massachusetts Institute of Technology was a friend of the family, and he encouraged Kendall to take up physics. He gained a doctor-ate, worked at MIT and Brookhaven National Laboratory and then joined Stanford University, where he taught from 1956 to 1961. It was here that he met Jerome Friedman and Richard Taylor, with whom he was to share the

Nobel Prize for Physics. in 1960 Stanford boasted an electron accelerator 60 metres long. Though small by modern standards, it was a leader in its time, and plans were already afoot to build a monster, two miles in length, in the area adjacent to the campus. Kendali left Stanford in 1961 to return to MIT, but with the advent of the new accelerator he began the joint work with

Friedman and Taylor. What they did was similar to what Ernest Rutherford had done half a century earlier when he discovered the atomic nucleus at the heart of the atom. He had used naturally occurring beams of electrically charged "alpha" particles, firing them at atoms; occasionally the alphas bounced back from the target, an effect which he interpreted as being due to the tiny hard core at the

9 49 35 PERTIES OF THE IN

As well as probing fundamental particles. Kendall led a scientists' warning to humanity verse at large, and has in-

spired the modern quest for an

atom's centre, now known as the atomic nucleus. However, with the limited tools available in 1910. Rutherford was unable to probe deeper into the nature of the protons and neutrons that form the nuclei of all the atomic elements.

What Kendall and his collaborators did. in a series of experiments that began in 1967 and lasted for several years, was to use the full power of the electron beams at the Stanford accelerator and fire them into the heart of atoms: at protons, the nuclei of hydrogen atoms, and at neutrons which were most cleanly probed in deuterium. What they found was that the electron beams were sometimes deflected violently, implying that there is some hard inner structure to protons and neutrons, a deeper more fundamental layer of matter.

This discovery led to the modern "standard model" of particles and the forces that combine them into the Uni-

all-encompassing unified theory. Before their work, the mystery of matter had been growing increasingly confused, as a bewildering variety of particles was found, first in cosmic rays and later in experiments at particle accelerators. In 1964 Murray Gell-Mann and George Zweig had independently proposed the idea that the proton, neutron and their cosmic siblines were all manifestations of a deeper layer of matter: Gell-Mann coined the name "quark" for the hypothetical basic building blocks at the most fundamental level. The experiments of Friedman, Kendall and

Kendall was at the same time becoming increasingly worried at the build-up of nuclear weapons by the superpowers. He consistently opposed Ronald Reagan's Star Wars initiative, challenging the idea that it could guaran-

Taylor confirmed the idea.

tee the security of American cities. He also warned against the proliferation of nuclear weapons. His concern about the safety of the nuclear power industry and the environmental consequences of modern technology led to his role in the founding of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

in 1981 he won the Leo Szilard Award of the American Physical Society for his contributions to public policy, and in 1992 he led the "Warning to Humanity", an appeal by more than 1,500 scientists for an end to the destruction of the Earth's natural resources.

The outdoors was Kendall's life, and the inspiration for his environmental work. It was while he was mountaineering with a colleague that some of the ideas behind the Nobel Prize experiment began to form, and his photographs of the mountains are well known in the physics community. He died while diving with a team from National Geographic.

Mr. Owen to the British

Government

An extraordinary era in the progress of civilization has arrived. The last half century has produced

materials sufficient to effect the most beneficial change in the condition of human society. And the period is at hand when these materials must be so applied by some power. or some party, in this or in some other

The subjects of your empire have been chiefly instrumental in discovering the means which these materials have been so abundantiv produced and made known; and you now possess resources which, whenever they shall be properly directed, will be found to be inexhaustible.

You are at this moment at the head of the civilized world; and all nations look to you for an example . . .

1 wish not to create feelings of division among any portion of my fellow creatures; but, if possible, to remove that ignorance which is alone the cause of opposition among individuals and nations.

It is for this purpose that I now address myself to you I know that you are in full possession of all the power requisite to obtain

#### ON THIS DAY February 23, 1824

老的辩论

The opening paragraphs of a letter by the social and educational reformer Robert Owen (1771-1858), written at his model factory and community at New Lanark, Scotland. In 5,000 words he expounds his ideas for educational and social reform.

and secure this object: and the reflecting part of society perceive that the mental ignorance with which the world is overwhelmed must be withdrawn, as a preliminary measure, before any substantial, permanent, and general improvement can be effected for our species.

Having this great end in view. I do not now address you merely as the directing power of the British empire, but as the legitimate leading head of the civilized world.

And as such, it is not my intention to consider that you will be henceforth influ-

enced by the limited views of class, secr. or party; or even by those of country, climate, or colour. It becomes your duty, as it is your interest and as it will prove to be your highest happiness, to acknowledge openly, frankly, and honestly, such principles, and to adopt such practices alone as will promote the public good.

On these grounds, it is my duty to speak to you the language of truth only. You are well aware that I have no intention whatever to hurt the feelings of any member of the Government, either in Church or State, or of any parties connected with it; and that I am guided solely by the desire to relieve my fellow-creatures from the miseries with which they have been so long afflicted.

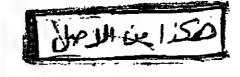
I now state to you - That you, at this moment, possess a sufficient supply of material to enable you, without injury to any parties, to adopt effective measures, which shall relieve the poor and working classes from poverty, or the lear of poverty.

That you possess the most abundant means of relieving all classes from ignorance, and of making them usefully and rationally intelli-

I have the honour to be, with all the respect due to your high stations, your faithful subject

ROBERTOWEN

New Lanark, Feb 17, 1824



THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

## A century of refuge for waifs and strays

Christopher Warman introduces a two-page report on a charity dedicated to helping today's underprivileged youngsters

an Sparks thought — as fathers do — that his daughter, born in the early Seventies, was exceptional. He was working for The Children's Society with deprived families in the North West, and it took him 18 months to realise that his daughter was normal, while the children he met through

falling behind. not being stimulated, were really having a poor start," he recalls. Their parents were having a difficult time and the children were missing

Now chief executive of The Children's Society, Mr Sparks remembers that example, which if lustrates why the society exists and what it aims to do. In the middle of a threeyear campaign to raise £12 million to emphasise its intention to be a "force for change". it is developing a series of challenging programmes in children

danger of slipping through society's safety net. He is conscious that, as the millennium approaches, the society, founded in 1881 as the Waifs and Strays Society, still faces a mas-

sive task. In education, the society is giving children threatened exclusion a second chance by helping to identify the causes of their disruptive behaviour. Its remand rescue

youths of 15 and 16 on remand. trying to keep them out of prison. Much of its work is involved with seeking out and helping runaways who are condemned for a variety of reasons to living on the streets. The root cause lies in the depri-vation into which they are born, and the society works in

the communities to try to im-

prove the environment. The

fifth main programme is sim-

ple: trying to make sure that

The charity deals with chil-

dren born into poverty, but it

is not just poverty that is the

"The kids are not ready for

school. Teachers have to teach

them how to play, to relate, to

learn. Early in their life young-

children eat properly.

children have got potential, and could achieve something. but in many cases they do not get the chance," Mr Sparks

He accepts that the society cannot come in with ready-made solutions. "People are fed up with experts parachuting in and imposing solutions. It is working with people that

is important. We can be a cata-

lyst, with our three or four

workers going on to an estate

to help 40 or 50 people. We con-

centrate on the children, but

we can draw the parents in.

ple tell us that a project has

Some 43,000 children run

away every year, and the socie-

ty has refuges and streetwork

and it is gratifying when peo-

changed their lives."

no government help to pay for this work with some of the country's most vulnerable children, and has to raise £1.2 million a year to fund its projects.

Mr Sparks knows that the society must take a robust view on its campaigns, even if it upsets some people. "It is important to speak out. We played a part in getting chang-

es made to the guidelines on

prostitution. We were the first

charity to open refuges for

young people, when it was still

law on harbouring children.

The society is now pushing

further. To comply with gov-

ernment regulations, the refug-

es are extremely expensive.

"We want flexible refuges. We

changed the Children Act."

because it broke the

Government then



chain, for example, where we could rent a room from time to time. We cannot do this at present because every room has to be sanctioned by the

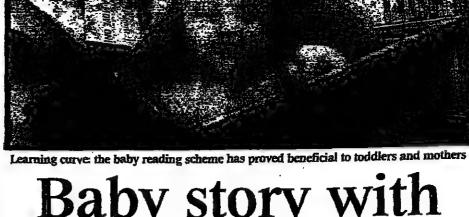
The society has come in for criticism by urging schools not men same to exclude pument is that you should not make

a class suffer for one disruptive pupil. But for that one, you are building up more problems building for the future by exclusion. We must do something positive for excluded pils," Mr Sparks says. While we cepting that cepting

there are enormous difficul-ties, he believes that in the comwhich it operates

there is begin-ning to be a feeling that there is now hope. The society realises that with its staff of 1,250 and an annual income of E26 million it cannot cover the and young peo- The society helps youths like these on Liverpool's Hillside estate to avoid getting involved in crime and ending up in prison whole country. though it has

projects in most large conurbations. "So many of the young people we work with look at the future with little hope, and see only problems.. That is why we have launched our five national programmes which target key areas - on the streets, in the home, in schools, in prisons and in communities under pressure where we can help them to make the most of their lives," programme works with ness from their parents. The The society receives virtually would like to go to a hotel Mr Sparks emphasises.



## Baby story with a happy ending

reading club for babies may sound a far-fetched idea, but it is a reality in Walsall, West Midlands, and proving one of the most successful schemes started by The Children's Society, Christopher Warman writes.
It is benefiting both babies

and their mothers living in some of the most deprived parts of the town.

The idea emerged from a national scheme called Book Start that began in the early 1990s, in which books are delivered to young babies. That has shown to give an advantage to children when they start school, but the difficulty is that parents are left to their own devices and often do not take advantage of the opportunity.

Walsali council partially adopted the scheme two years ago and a librarian at Brownhills, one of 19 libraries in the borough, decided that it would help to extend the idea

towards reading in groups. With the help of the society's family centre in Walsall, the first "cradle club" was formed a year ago, and has proved "an outstanding success", says Graeme Cockcroft, the project co-ordinator. We have had 50 to 60 peo-

ple through the door, meeting once a week, with babies as young as two weeks, but most one-year-old daughter. Charaim to stop these children few months old, accompalione, to the club every week.

nied by their mums, sometimes their dads, and also their grandparents.

"The babies are encouraged to play together, and it is amazing to see the body language as they become aware of each other and play together. Then the books come out, with one parent starting to read to the group. To see a significant number of the babies sitting in rapt attention to the stories is wonderful. The stories are repetitive and onomatopoeic to give them attractive cadences. and you can see some of the babies concentrating."

Cockcroft says that many of the mothers have not had experience in reading or being read to and are used to having the TV on all the time. "Some of the parents did not grow up with books in the house and need extra encouragement to make reading a natural part of their children's lives.

"The spin-offs from the scheme are there to see: the mums are getting out of their home and are setting up a net-work of friends; the babies are developing all kinds of skills, learning to be part of a group. and learning listening skills and concentration — all needed to help in the education set-

ting they will find later." Yvonne Smith brings her says. "I find the group very helpful. I didn't know you

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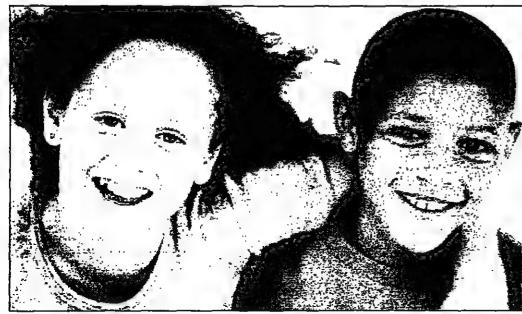
could try reading so early." The first group are now toddlers, so the library is no long-er suitable for them. The society has provided premises, enabling them to carry on, and the parents are always asking for more. The society is also providing informal courses in basic play, good behaviour, and assertiveness to help their

Research carried out at Birmingham University into the effect of the Book Start scheme has shown that the children taking part in it had a significarttly better chance of success in education,.

As a result of the Brownhills experiment, the scheme is being extended to all 19 librarles, of which ten are now operating. "As far as I am aware, this is the only such scheme in existence, but I would be delighted if there were others," Cockcroft adds.

The society's work does not end when the children get to school. It has after-school groups for children from 4 to who are identified as likely to fail in school. Children and parents are offered guidance and advice, and by working with them and the schools "we aim to stop these children slip-

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## How Hillbilly Land was tamed

MOST large cities have them, fringe housing estates spiral-ling into decline and taking a beleagured community with them, places scarred by vandalism, crime, unemployment

and fear.

Hillside. in Huyton, on the outskirts of Liverpool, is one such neighbourhood. But it is now fighting back, helped by the parents of disaffected youngsters who caused the problems in the first place. problems in the first place.

Youth unemployment is more than 50 per cent and the number of children living in homes that rely on state bene-fits is four times the national average. Teenagers bored and antagonistic, rejecting the socie-ty that rejected them, still hold high expectations, fed by television, advertising and a clear view of the consumer society.

"Where we managed with a skipping rope as kids, it now has to be BMX bikes, computer games and designer trainers." says a mother who grew up on Hillside. Youngsters had only cold intolerance for their ciders. Her 14-year-old son had learning difficulties and behaviour problems, and had not attended school for two years. Things got so bad the entire family was threat-

"He's no angel." she admits,
"but surely, at 14. he can't be
beyond help. I feel that something is happening now, something necific is stration." thing positive is starting."

People saw their cars being broken into outside their own homes, yet were too afraid to tackle those involved or give evidence against them. Hillside's reputation was so bad that contractors refused to enter the estate. Any house that fell vacant was immediately vandalised. A hardcore of 20 or 40 youngsters, mostly in their teens and some of them third generation unemployed, caused mayhem.

"People were scared to give evidence, some were scared to leave their own homes," says Inspector Peter Owen, at Huy-

ton police station. Hillside became known as Hillbilly Land, Children with an attitude problem, like charHillside was a notorious no-go zone until the tide of crime was turned. Ronald Faux reports



HIYA: Margaret Mills (centre) with members of her team

acters from Lord of the Flies, reached a point where their behaviour caused the community to rebel and demand action. One residents' association meeting - normally apathetic gatherings attended by fewer than a dozen - proved a Rubi-con. A crowd of 150 very out-raged people turned up, threatening to take the law into their own hands.

The estate had become one of the worst in Liverpool, but the police alone would have been unable to deal with the problems. Already, roads had been blocked off and speed ramps installed to deter joyriders. "They spent huge sums on measures like that, that simply didn't work." a parent complains. "The joyriders just used the speed ramps to get airborne.

A strategy was needed to involve the whole community which is where The Children's Society came in. Immediate action "drenched" Hillside with police for two months last autumn. It proved to be a stabilising influence but could not be sustained indefinitely.

A community police officer

up. Margaret Mills, a former teacher, probation officer and now a community initiative worker with The Children's Society, set about the daunt-ing task of helping seriously disaffected children and purents. They formed HIYA. (Hillside Initiative Youth Activities), an acronym suggest-ing a cheerful greeting and the upward direction they in-

You can't change things overnight. That's simply not possible. The problem is with bored kids ... with nothing to do, no jobs and little prospect of getting a job. A lot of them left school early, with no qualifications, so everything they share is negative, like the attitude of the community to them," she says.

tended to go.

HIYA took positive action towards repairing the social damage. More than 4,600 people live on Hillside estate. vet most of the trouble was caused by probably no more than 40 teenagers between 14 and 17. Parents facing orders under the new Crime and Disorder Bill, with the ultimate sanction of eviction from their homes if offspring refused to

held social evenings for them at 'The Children's Society premises. "Before this, they had nowhere they were accept-ed," says Ms Mills. "The atti-tude of residents, and the authorities, towards them was negative and, under all their bravado, they were scared and confused. The only way they knew to react was to stick together and, when accused, to retaliate. You couldn't call them a gang: there's nothing organised and little evidence of drugs. They aren't low achievers, they are really no

achievers, who need help." Now, at risk of apparently rewarding had behaviour, a group of up to 40 vulnerable oungsters have been chosen to take part in an eight-month youth activity programme. It will include canoeing, fell walking and a cruise on a tall ship to the Continent. It will cost around £45,000, some of it raised from government programmes but a substantial part from local initiatives.

If sticks are unlawful, the only incentive left to encourage good behaviour is more carrots. Already, attitudes on the estate have changed.

"People will actually talk to

the police, whereas before they would not acknowledge us," says Inspector Owen.

"The impact on crime fig-ures is also encouraging in every area. Burglary, criminal damage, theft of vehicles and from vehicles are down by as much as 25 per cent in a year. Youth disorder complaints have been halved."

The Government's New Start strategy considered it to be common sense that young people would be more willing to relate to local people they knew rather than to strangers from the welfare system.

"Hillside recognises that."
Says Ms Mills. "Someone had a video of a TV programme about the estate's problems. It included young people asking for a community centre and some open space for a football pitch. That programme was broadcast 14 years ago.



THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23 1999

## Rescue for the remanded

Locking up 15-year-olds who are on remand is shameful, it is claimed. Craig Seton reports on a campaign for a humane policy

LIE BUTTEN SEVEET

corridors cannot disguise the reality that Unit 15 at Glen Parva Young Offenders Institute (YOI) in Leicestershire is a prison in all but name. The unit is a special wing housing more than 80 young men aged between 15 and 17 who have been remanded in custody by the courts.
They spend most of their time socked up.
These youths await further

court proceedings or sentencing for alleged offences which range from shoplifting and burglary to assault and murder. Their stay at Glen Parva, a YOI for males aged up to 21, can be for just a week or for

There are 1,855 males in the 15 to 17 age group now serving sentences or on remand in Britain's prisons and YOIs. Many are given custodial remands because of a severe shortage of secure social services accommodation. Of that total, 232 are remand prisoners aged 15 or 16, and it is the plight of these teenagers, who have not been sentenced, that is the focus of a national initiative by The Children's Society.

The society believes that the practice of locking up such young, often vulnerable peo-ple before they have been convicted of a crime is shameful. It brutalises young men, exposes them to bullying, drugs and the risk of self-harm, and puts them in the company of other youths with criminal records. It does little to reduce the number of offences or to protect the public, the group

The initiative, known as Re-

he light, airy atmos-phere and the Mozart being piped into the two years ago to push for an end to prison remands for 15 and 16-year-old males and to and 16-year-old males and to help in finding community alternatives for those already in prisons and YOIs.
The Children's Society

wants the implementation of section 60 of the 1991 Criminal Justice Act to end remands for 15 and 16-year-olds in prison. Although the Home Office says it intends to eliminate all remands for under-17s in prisons and YOIs, it admits there is no timetable because of a lack of places in secure local authority accommodation.

The Remand Rescue programme allows Children's Society staff to work inside the YOIs at Glen Parva, Doncaster in South Yorkshire, and Feltham, just outside London. The society's representatives assess boys of that age group who arrive on remand, then try to arrange bail, remand fostering or remand to secure local authority accommodation as an alternative to prison.

Within 72 hours of an individual arriving, Janet Chown, The Children's Society's project leader at Glen Parva. has gathered information on his alleged offence, possible criminal record, health, emotional and educational needs. Through local authority youth justice teams and other agencies, she tries to find a non-prison alternative until the youth comes up for sentence.
Since last March, 37 of the

171 inmates assessed have been "rescued", ie, found community alternatives. The unit currently houses twelve inmates aged 15, and fourteen inmates aged 16. No criticism is levelled at the YOI staff by Ms Chown, who says they do their



Janet Chown, a Children's Society project leader, meets juveniles at the Glen Parva institute in Leicestershire

Segregation within Unit 15 for the 15 to 17-year-old inmates was introduced last year to keep them away from hundreds of sentenced prisoners at Glen Parva. Two youths share each cell into which soothing music is piped to create a calming atmosphere.

"The immates do have educa-

tion and association groups but they are mostly locked up in their cells from 4.30pm to 7.30am," Ms Chown says. "Bullying goes on, they get lit-tle fresh air and they complain that they do not get enough food. This kind of regime is not right for children - it brutalises them. I have seen kids come here a second time round who have already lost their fear of prison. The deter-

Ms Chown insists that the best option for young people who have been charged with very serious offences is secure local authority accommodation where the youths' needs can be addressed. One of the greatest concerns is the risk of self-harm and even suicide among juveniles who cannot cope with a prison regime.

Doug Friend, in charge of Unit 15, believes it is the right place for many of the juveniles, but concedes that teenagers on lesser charges could be better off in a hostel or home environment. He has 14 officers working with him who were especially picked to deal with juveniles. Each must demonstrate compassion and patience and all are prepared

#### CASE STUDY

THREE older inmates have been enlisted by staff to advise and counsel younger boys in Unit 15. One prisoner, aged 18, on remand charged with murder, was chosen because of his progress, maturity and helpful attitude in his ten months at Glen Parva awaiting trial.

He says: "I was suicidal when I first came here. It was scary because I bottled everything up, but I got a lot of help and support from the staff." He believes that custodial remands can be a useful deterrent. "Coming into a place like this will perhaps stop someone reoffending. Once they have had a taste, they will not want to come back."

The two other inmates, aged 19 and 20, have been trained by the Samaritans to act as "listeners" to hear the confidential grievances and concerns of younger boys. The 20-year-old, serving three years for car theft and burglary, admits that he has picked up hints from more experienced car thieves in prison - confirming Children's Society fears that prisons can act as "colleges of crime". He says that the "listeners" can inform staff about cases of bullying, for instance, only if the victim asks them to. "Some lads do get bullied, but we never take the law into our own hands. When somebody comes to us, we stress that it is confidential."

visitors.

minutes rather than seconds. Jenny

and her children have attended the

centre for 18 months, which is longer

than most. "Once families leave, we

seldom see them again," says Robert

Owen, the project manager, "and we hope that is proof of a high success

When cases are referred to us, we

We make direct observations of

how they relate to each other and try

to build up a complete picture with

the help of schools, GPs and health

"We can then make recommenda-

tions about what should happen to

them. If we feel that the children are

at risk and there is no way of avoid-

ing it, we would have to recommend

removing the children from the fami-

ly, but we always hope that we can

work with young children but is also

developing parent groups, work with

over-eights and weekly luncheon

clubs for the young homeless of Mil-

It is keeping families together, how-

wen, with more than 30

years of experience in child

care, is proud of the centre's

achieve something more positive."

look at the family as a whole, discuss

dividually if they are old enough.

## Teams who win the trust of runaways

SPONSORED SECTION

he facts explain the scale of the chal-lenge — 43,000 children run away every year. more than 100 a day, a third of whom are victims of beating or abuse. In 1994, re-search showed that 10,000 young people had run away ten times or more by the time they were 16, Christopher Warman writes.

The Children's Society runs three refuges where children and young people can be provided with emergency accommodation, a safe place to stay while theydecide what to do next.

The Society also has two streetwork projects, in Birmingham and Manchester, where staff seek out young people up to the age of 18, but particularly under 16. Some will have

spent time from away home and care, and have little or no contact with their families, social services or school. Many have suffered abuse or have become wary of the adult world.

The Safe in the City project in Manchester was set up in 1990 to help runaways on the streets of the city centre. Members of the project team patrol in

pairs, armed with items including underwear, toiletries and chocolate. talking to street people to find out where the youngsters

vulnerable. Picture posed using a model

Andy Mc-Cullough, team leader, says that there are many reasons why young people run away they may have been ejected from their home: feel neglected; have been abused. emotionally or physically; have been builtied at school; or have been the victims of certainly do not run away to have a good time, and although running away may solve the immediate problem, they are in fact exchanging one set of problems for another," he says. "Who can they trust? How do they get money? Often

they are drawn into crime. some into prostitution. "We try to get them to trust us; we will not tell anyone about them unless they are in real danger. Some of them are safer on the streets

than at home." If the youngsters agree, project staff will talk to social services or to their parents for them. The main aim is to reduce the risks that they face and, where possible, to help them to re-

turn home or to find a safe place to stay. The teams can find up to ten young people on the streets in a night, some as

young as nine or ten. The Children's Society's streetwork and refuge programme began in the 1980s and operates in Manches-ter, Leeds, Birmingham, Bournemouth and Newport. It costs £1.2 million a year to run, funded totally by the Society. One of many youngsters

Society in recent years was Oliver, who has moderate learning difficulties. His family felt that they could not look after him, so he went into care at the age of 13. Although had was happy at his first children's home in the North West, he was moved to another home in a different town when he was 15. He was bullied and beaten up by boys on his way to school, but felt that he could not confide in the

He wanted to return to his parents, but they were unable and unwilling to have him back. So finally he ran away - seven times in

The Safe in the City project heard of Oliver from workers operat-

ing a soup run and found him at the railway station. Andy McCullough recalls: eir eir m-eir

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ac-US

"It was apparent that Oliver was in real danger. This was streetwise kid - he was wearing speciacles fixed with white tape, he looked terribly young, his manand even his clothes made him stand out. He was relying on soup kitch-

ens for food and sleeping in railways sta-tions at night. He was very saw no danger in speaking to

Young runaways are Although he was reluctant

> to return to the home, project staff took him back and explained to one of the social workers that Oliver had been bullied. "The staff at the home had no idea that had been victimised and had not realised how unhappy he was. After that, they made sure that sured, and could talk about his fears and anxieties."

> nother helped by the project was John whom they first met on the streets of Manchester when he was 12 years old. He said that he had been badly bullied at school and, when he plucked up the courage to tell his Dad, had been told

to "toughen up".

Feeling that he had no one else to turn to, he began running away from home. each time for a longer period than the last. "At his age, he was clearly very vulnerable," a spokesman for the Society says. "Our workers talked to John about his worries. His main concern was his Dad's reaction and the bullying he had suffered.

With John's permission. we contacted his parents who said that they had no idea how much his problems at school had been affecting him. They met John at the Safe in the City project and staff discussed his worries with them, and offered support to John while he explained his fears tacted his teachers and told them about the bullying."

#### Tony Dawe reports on a society centre which has been the salvation of many troubled relationships

t first glance, a family centre in the sociably named Coffee Hall district of Milton Keynes looks just the same as other homes on the estate. It is made up of bungalows similar to the rest on the street.

The rooms are homely, with a smart kitchen, shabby lounge and functional dining room. Only the playroom is different, large enough

The homeliness is intentional, for the purpose of the centre is to keep families together, to overcome the traumas which could prevent them living as one in their own home and could consign the children to institutions far more formal than the Coffee Hall family centre, which is run by The Children's Society.

Jenny has been a regular visitor with her son Nicholas, eight, and daughter Ann, four. She is resigned — for the present at least — to being a single mother after splitting with her husband and then a second partner, but she fears for the break-up of the rest of her family under the strain.

"Nicholas couldn't play with any of the children at school and at home he would fly into rages, breaking toys and trying to hurt himself," she says. He put his hand on the cooker climbed into a scalding bath and hit

himself with his own toys. "At other times, he would over-compensate for being the only male in the house: make the tea, do the Hoovering and boss Ann about." The problems were obvious to

Jenny's health visitor but persuading her to get help was difficult. She had sought counselling from a charity as a troubled teenager but confidences were broken and she found herself an outcast in her own family.

She also suffered from a common reluctance to become involved with a social services department. Her case was referred to the Children's Society, which has a service agreement

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## Families under threat



Child in turmoil: unloved and vulnerable, a typical victim in need of help. Our picture is posed by a model

with the local department to help with child protection in the town. "When I first came here, I was very depressed, very emotional, bitter and angry about what had happened to

me," Jenny continues.
"I took on the children's anger. I felt bad for them because they hadn't got a Dad any more."

Jenny can now recall with a smile the time she was asked to do a drawing depicting how she saw herself. I drew this tiny little figure in the middle of this huge piece of white

paper," she explains. After school, at weekly sessions, workers at the cen-tre tried to build up Jenny's selfesteem, to develop a strategy for dealing with Nicholas's worst excesses

and to help him learn to play. "They made me realise that I had some good points: that I kept the children clean and safe and could communicate with them," she adds.

"I felt I could trust the people here. If I had a really bad day and felt like

screaming, I could tell them the truth

without worrying about what would

happen to me or the children. They taught me that, if things reached breaking point at home, I should go and have a fag in the garden or lock myself in a room until I had calmed

They taught Nicholas that Mum is big enough to look after herself and that he should look after himself and start to enjoy playing."

With the help of drawing and simple games, workers improved Nicholas's low levels of concentration so that he could stick at something for

ever, which gives him the greatest satisfaction. He talks with enthusiasm about Brian, a volatile father, his wife Jo and their four children, one aggressive, another withdrawn and a third

"It took a good four months to engage this family," he says, "but we have now moved from intermittent contact to regular meetings. We are discussing their relationships with each other and hope that, by alerting them to their attitudes and behaviour, the children will benefit.

"Brian recognises that he could lose his children if he does not co-operate."

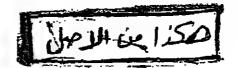
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FULL BACKS

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE



David Ginola of Tottenham Hotspur (right) tumbles over the challenge of Colin Cooper of Middlesbrough during Saturday's game at the Cellnet Riverside Stadium.

## Cracks show as Leicester defenders feel pressure

fter a week without a weekly prize or new ON-Target numbers, we are back to normal, after a set of FA Carling Premiership matches which have had a significant effect on the scores in the player lists (right). Middlesbrough and Leicester City

conceded five goals in a match and, while the Boro defenders salvaged some pride (and Fantasy League points) from a goalless draw at home to Tottenham Hotspur. players such as Steve Guppy, Kasey Keller. Robert Ullathorne and Man Elliott, who have been big contributors to successful teams, cost

their fantasy managers dearly. For once. Dwight Yorke did not trouble the scorers, with Andy Cole and Ryan Giggs netting the Manchester United goals against Arsenal and Coventry City respectively. Yorke unable to get so much as a flick on either to claim an assist. And after his four-goal salvo against Nottingham Forest hit the headlines a fortnight ago, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer was reduced to the small print.

Next week, we will announce the name of the monthly winner for February, who will receive £1,000 plus £100 worth of Puma sports equipment A further prize of £500 plus £100 worth of sports equipment will go to the weekly winner. This week, the winner of the ON-Target competition, like the weekly winner, receives double the usual prize-money. Since no prizes were awarded last week because of the cancellation of most FA Carling Premiership fixtures on FA Cup fifth-round weekend, the cash prizes have been "rolled over" to this week. So, if your team total according to the player lists adds up to 2, 4 or 8, follow the instructions opposite and you could be £1,000 better off.

When the league tables published in newspapers start to include the doned lines indicating the promotion, play-off and (gulp) relegation positions, it is a sure sign that the season is moving into its



most serious phase. That four-point lead of Manchester United is beginning to look considerable to Chelsea and Arsenal, but to those at Old Trafford, wins for their two closest rivals will have done nothing for the nerves. It is much tighter at the top of The

Times Fantasy League. A six-point gap means almost nothing, considering that this week's winner

(see opposite) scored 39.

Hence Phil Clarke, manager of Shabadi United, the overall leaders on 306 points, must be looking nervously over his shoulder at Robert Little's Broken Arrow, former leaders, on 298, and Sarabjot Kohli's Junglemen, two points further back. United had six non-scoring players in their XI. but David Seaman,

European Cup final

@ #8.000 for third place

sports equipment

O 450,420 to the runner-up

© £500 weekly On-Target prize

Michael Ball. Sol Campbell and Robbie Fowler each contributed a steady three points each. Nolberto Solano weighing in with one more. Broken Arrow could manage only

Serious Squad, who scored only eight points. Coming up on the rails into fifth place are David Young's Dave 10, who scored 24. ☐ For legal reasons, The Times Fantasy League is no longer able to accept entries from players under 18 years of age. Players 17 years and under already registered in the main and youth leagues will, however, be

nine points. The Junglemen shot into third place on the strength of a 17-point weekend, overtaking James Kerr's

allowed to remain in the competition.

## As I was saying

Fantasy League points Did any of them benefit any of your teams? Pretty much the reverse, How so?

Well, as you know, I have an admiration for certain Leicester City players, and having Matt Elliott in one of my teams did nothing for its score, after Arsenal put five past them.

Yes, I noticed Steve Walsh asking for Dennis Bergkamp's shirt afterwards, but I don't suppose Bergkamp asked for a Leicester top. Perhaps he doesn't like blue. Well, that is, of course, quite possible, especially with black stripes, after the hard time he had with Inter. Speaking of colours, what colour would your fantasy teams play in, if they were out there on the park for real?

Probably a sort of pale You mean lemon?

Exactly. Or brown, perhaps? It would certainly suit the way most of the players in my teams performed this weekend.

You've got three teams, must have had a good

I had some good performers. but not big points-scorers. No Anelka, no Barmby, no Hasselbaink, then? Unfortunately not. Not even a David Unsworth or a Petter Rudi. I signed Chris Marsden, Southampton's new guy, as soon as he

became available; I've always thought he looked good for Stockport and Birmingham. And I was proved right to some extent on Saturday - he played so well for Southampton against Newcastle that Dave Jones, the Saints manager, praised him to the heavens after the game. I noticed that. But what's

the problem? Simply that, because he didn't score or set up a goal, I don't get any points for

so much about Stockport and Birmingham, then? You've got to be a keen student of the game at all levels these days, I reckon. After all, players in the Nationwide League today are tomorrow's stars of the FA Carling Premiership and hence the Fantasy League. Wonldn't you be better off studying the Bulgarian third division or the Macedonian Premier League, with the number of

I can't use my railcard on a cheap day return to Sofia.



# cheap foreigners coming

CENTRE BACKS

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Select a team of 11 Premiership players from those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose	team and make sure the total does not exceed £50m. Send your entry to the address shown, with	1
more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with:	a cheque/PO for \$2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or Rol) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal	(
one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards.	identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental	1
TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the entry form, left, in no more than 16 characters.	permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our	t

Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter the first three characters of each player's team under the heading CLUB, ie, LEE for Leeds. Also enter the value of each player shown on the list right. Add up the values of the 11 players in your

team and make sure the total does not exceed £50m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or Rol) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our

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**FORWARDS** 

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# : to

## Parlour discovers top of his game

The scintillating February form of Nicolas Anelka helped a lucky manager in South London to land the £1,000 roll-over prize

his week, there have been many candidates for the title of Fantasy Player of the

The Charlton Athletic defence, for example, have now racked up three clean sheets in succession, an astonishing feat for players in a team that lost eight straight games not so long ago.

Then there was Bjarne Goldback, the forward whose move from FC Copenhagen to Chelsea made few headlines as Brian Laudrup went in the opposite direction, but who scored twice (one more than Laudrup managed in a blue shirt) as Chelsea, despite an unconvincing display, took all three points against Nottingham Forest at the City

And there were candidates aplenty at Highbury, where Leicester City were trounced 5-0. Nicolas Anelka's scintillating February continued with an expertly-taken hat-trick, to add to his midweek opener at Old Trafford, while Dennis Bergkamp drew praise from all quarters for his torturing of the Leicester defenders.

However, our man of the week is Ray Parlour, scorer of the other two Arsenal goals, and the only Englishman who regularly gets to perform in front of the Highbury

He is justly famous for a remark made to Eileen Drewery, Glenn Hoddle's faith healer, in a one-to-one session during an England get-together ("Short back and sides, please"); it may have adversely affected his World Cup chances, but at least it made the rest of us laugh.

And, lest anyone forget, it was his Othrow-in during the Sheffield United cup-tie, intercepted with such dire consequences by Nwankwo Kanu, which sparked the replay debate that has set the tongues of the football world wagging for more

Otherwise, the Romford-born Parlour, 26 next month, remains a relatively unheralded component of the Arsenal machine, certainly by comparison to the likes of Tony Adams, Bergkamp and Marc

Usually deployed on the right of the Arsenal midfield, he twice ran through on Saturday to strike goals with, first, his right foot, and then and this had Highbury regulars rubbing their eyes in disbelief - his

The Fantasy Player of the Week award is partly to celebrate his two goals which give us this rare opportunity to salute his sterling service and, it must be admitted, at least partly for the Drewery joke. Pariour has also been known,



#### WEEKLY WINNER

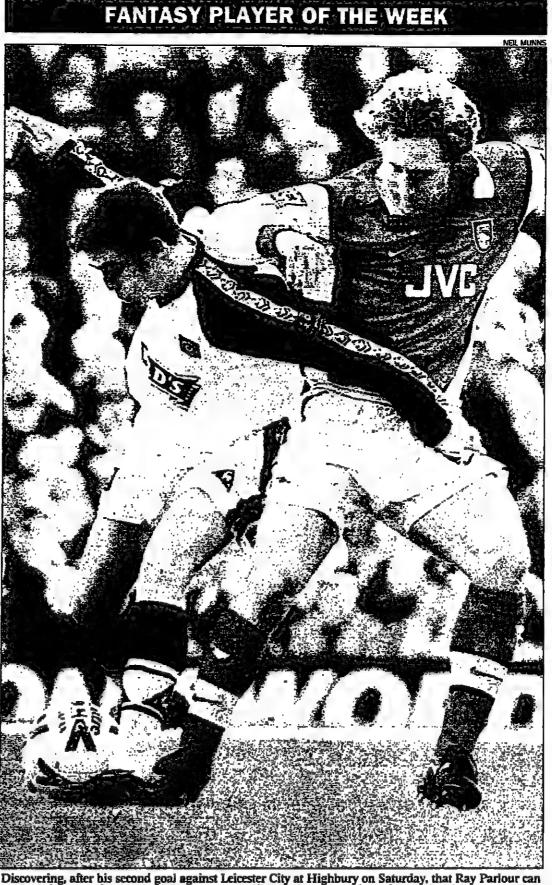
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G Rowett (DER)
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E Youds (CHA)
D Unsworth (EVE)
A Thompson (AST)
P Merson (MID)
B Carbone (SHE)
F Lampard (WES)
N Apelica (ARS)12
J F Hasselbaink (LFE)
TOTAL POINTS: 39

fairly or not, as something of a party animal. Consequently, many people have wondered why, if Anelka is as lonely in London as talk would have it. Parlour does not take him out on the town a few times and show him the bright lights? In fact, judging by the week the Frenchman has just enjoyed, it might have happened aiready.

There was even the ghost of a smile on a usually stony face as Anelka knocked his third past Kasey Keller, making him the leading contributor, with 12 points, to this week's winning team, Jan's Avengers, selected by Janet Manikiza, of southeast London, who receives this week's "rolled-over" prize of £1,000 plus £100-worth of sports equipment.

Apart from Anelka, the Avengers had another forward in sparkling form, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, who scored twice at Aston Villa last Wednesday and set up Willem Korsten for the Leeds United winner on Saturday, for a total of eight Fantasy League points.

David Unsworth, too, made a valuable contribution, scoring the last of Everton's five against Middlesbrough and helping to keep a clean sheet, for six points



use both feet, was, for the Arsenal management, like signing a new player for nothing. Many more such performances (and the departure of Eileen Drewery), should make him a regular in the England squad

1	Phil Clarke	Shabadi United	3
12345678	Rebert Little	Broken Arrow	322222
4	James Kerr	Serious Squad	2
5	David Young	Daw: 10	2
7	Phil Tusier	Super Saddlers B	2
8	John Humphreys	Académicals,	2
10	David Wise	Walsall Reserves	2
10	Tim Gardner	Harchester Who?	2
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13	Jennifer Cockburn	Yeah Right!	
15 15	Robin Harrington	Chequers Champs	222
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24	Andrew James Spencer	This Ones Mine	2
24 26	Peter Leathern	Spike Town	2
26	Nell Hransvoor	L JADRIOWN FILLS	2
28 28	Henry Coserove	Taffys Terrors	2
28	Colla Head	Headstart Gunard	2
28	C Sharpe	Sunfish Stars	2
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33	Mike Truran	Tigger United	2
33 37	Darren Sawyer	Finchleyallstars	2
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47	Matthew O'Neil	The M Team	2
47 47		Scotts Stars	27
47	Mike Shipley	Minus Threat 10	2
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56		Chicken Chasers	27
56	Andy Luckhurst	Caroline B	27
58 58	John Heves	The Odd Squad	27
58	Tom Summers	Ganıchou	27
58 58	Nigel Kalb	Kalbs Kings 9 Nigels Team	27
63	Colin Campbell	Barrys Hats	27
63 65		Doms Demons	27
65	Mandy Adamson	Man(dv) United	26
65 65 65	Philip Morton	Skilli Vanilı	26
65		Wallys Wonders 2	26
65	Tom Lee	The Bears FC	26
65 65	James Muir	James Muirauders Survivors 6	26
65	L Samuels	Spartak Mossley	26
74	Pritesh Gadhia	Willesden Eleven	26
74 74	Kayin Culverhouse	Just A Second FC	20
74	Mike Shipley	Minor Threat 15	26
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88 88	Thomas Bailey	Super Spurs	2
88	Sarosh Daruwala	Scorch	20
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88	J Prinsell	Grand Pan Pizza	20

#### So your team is useless? You FANTASY LEAGUE QUIZ can still win £1,000 this week

Now is the time to sign up a new team for On-Target, the game where you don't have to be a footballing anorak to win the prizes

ongratulations to Mr. S Colbey, of York, the main winner of ON-Target this week, who finds himself £500 richer and possessor of an EA Sports Pack. Fourteen other manj agers have also managed to win themselves excellent

្តមួយជ្រើ

VIII 32

Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now - or enter a new one simply for ON-Target All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. The Times has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned FIFA 99 eame. Every week you have the chance to win: lst Prize: £500 plus an **EA Sports Pack** 4 runners up: EA

Sports Packs
10 additional runners up: Fifa 99 CD-Rom. Each EA Sports Pack contains: FIFA '99 for the Playstation: FTFA 99 for the PC: EA Sports T-Shirt, key ring and mini football plus a

IF YOU already have a team in the main game. then you're ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score shown here each Tuesday. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners' line (national rate call) will out you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes.

The ON-Target score may be high or low. There could be more than one score (such as today). It could be a minus score. So it's worth checking your performance every week. Just have your PIN number handy to call the winners line on:



Check your total, then ring 0870 901 4270 (ex UK +44 870 901 4270)

> Calls charged at national rates

If you don't have a team, or want to sign up another one, enter now by filling in the entry form. There are no limits to how many teams you enter. Not only could you win the ON-Target prizes, but you could win the main game week-(£500) or monthly (£1,000) prizes.

**HOW TO ENTER:** Look up your players' weekly scores opposite and add them up. or call the checkline 0640 625 102. If your total score for this week matches the ON-Target number(s). then call our claim line on **0870 901 4270** (calls, charged at national rate.







Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday night. The lines then close until the next game starts on Tuesday

If you have scored the correct number of points AND called the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the paper on the following Tuesday to see if you have won.

Managers with the correct points who have not called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, in-audible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw must conform to the main game rules.

The week's western are 5 Collogy of York (£500 plus EA Sports Pack): Mrs A Slade of South Crowdon, Combana Jobs of Tunbridge Wells, J Mills of Bristol, Marchan Car of Lowlon E1 and Barry Acres of Maidenhead (EA Sports Packs): Mick Conseigne of Bodlord Michael Catolico of London E11, Paul Morris of London NS. Frank leablt of Edinburgh, States xandra of Altrincham, Christopher Stepl of Utto Roy Hatchiason of Middlesbrough, Clarke Pinnington of Preston and Steve

Every week, we

test your knowledge with our fantasy quiz.



Two weeks ago, we showed you four bargain buys you might like to consider: Thomas Myhre, Michael Ball, Richard Dunne (all Everton) and Peter Atherton (Sheffield Wednesday) - the players who represent the best value under £3 million.

> What do this week's four big names have in





#### **CHECK YOUR SCORES** TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

## YOUTH LEAGUE TOP 12

Robert Anderso Jwalant Popat... Matthew O'Nell Henrietta Ball Henri & Goals UU. 271 267 266 266 265 264 264 Ganichou. Claire Barber Super Spurs. .Manchester Cro



Sol Campbell: name to savour in leaders' teams

#### Time to switch thoughts to transfers

MANAGERS who still have plenty of transfer opportunities in The Times Fantasy League may be wise to investigate the rearranged Premiership fixtures in order to give themselves an all-important advantage over the opposition

If you are among the managers who have remained faithful to your original line-up, now could be the time to capitalise on your remaining changes. The fixtures of many Premiership teams will be affected by the latter stages of the FA Cup, thus ensuring that weekend matches are switched to midweek to accommodate

the cup fixtures. Therefore, you will find that during the weekend of March 6 and 7, many scheduled Premiership fixtures will have to be moved to a more

appropriate date, some depending on the outcomes of fifth-round replays. The only fixtures certain to take place on the weekend concerned are Coventry v Charlton. Southampton v West Ham and Wimbledon v Leicester, with two other fixtures depending

on replay results. Four of the scheduled matches (Leeds v Tottenham,

TRANSFER LINE

Want to make one of your 12 transfers?

0640 62 51 03 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4293)

0640 calls cost 60p per minute. Ex-UK calls charged at national rates

Blackburn v Everton. Liverpool v Manchester United and Middlesbrough v Chelsea) have already been rescheduled for the following week, thus ensuring that these teams will have two matches during the week starting March 8.

Therefore, if you have a couple of spare transfers, then you could gain some vital points by simply transferring in players who have two opportunities to score points during the week, rather than just the one.

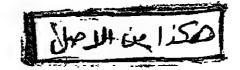
Wily campaigners can even take immediate advantage of the fixture amendments. The Tottenham v Southampton and Sheffield Wednesday v Wimbledon games will definitely be played next week. By transferring in Southampton or Wimbledon

managers can field their players twice the following week, before transferring them out of their line-up and signing a player who has two games the following week. Managers should note that

players before next Monday.

the Charlton v Tottenham and Liverpool v Leicester matches originally scheduled for March 20 will have to be postponed because of the Worthington Cup final the following day.

With Manchester United and Chelses still involved in Europe, rescheduling fixtures may be difficult, so watch out for a backlog in the final fortnight. Two seasons ago, Newcastle had four matches in the space of the final week, so if you're after a sprint finish. this could be the way to go.



#### Condon tries to ride out the storm

Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, signailed he would not resign over the Stephen Lawrence report after seeing it for the first time behind closed doors at the Home Office. As Scotland Yard repeated Sir Paul's pledge to see out his full term of seven years and to retire next January, the Commissioner had an unexpected meeting with Mr Straw when he went to the Home Office to read the report ...... Pages I. 6

#### Blair gives euro signal to business

The strongest signal so far to business and the European Union that the Government is warming to British membership of the euro will be sent out today. The Prime Minister is to announce details of the national changeover plan for the introduction of the single currency in the event of a decision by the Brit-Page 1 ish people in a referendum to go in.....

#### Playwright's suicide

Sarah Kane, the enfant terrible of the theatre, is believed to have committed suicide at 27 .... Page I

#### **Education targets** The Education Secretary David

Blunkett faces an uphill battle to meet the government's targets, according to the results of almost 15,000 primary schools.....Page 1

#### Prisoners' claim

Thousands of former prisoners and serving inmates are expected to claim an estimated £1 million from the Prison Service in a row over deductions from their wages for board and lodgings.....Page 2

#### 15th murder charge

Harold Shipman will face charges of murdering 15 of his women patients when he goes on trial in October. The GP is accused of being one of Britain's most prolific serial killers...... ..... Page 3

#### Eton boy hanged

An Eton boy was found hanged in his room at the college yesterday. Nicholas Taylor, 15, was certified dead after being found shortly before breakfast... ....Page 5

#### Angry skiers

Three British businessmen prosecuted by the French authorities for skiing off piste in the Alps claimed that they had been made scapegoats to calm public anger after a series of tragedies...Page 8 Ken Maginnis moved to break the deadlock on Northern Ireland's by saying his Ulster Unionists were prepared to allow Sinn Fein "wriggle room" on IRA disar-....Page 10

One in seven of all British couples

seek help for infertility from the

NHS, but 80 per cent of them are

....Page 9

#### Kosovo clashes

'Wriggle room'

VF refusals

New fighting in Kosovo displaced more than 4.000 ethnic Albanian civilians as Serb special police and army units clashed with separatist guerrillas Page 12

#### Farmers at war

Brussels seemed like a war zone as 40,000 European Union farmers protested against plans for reform in the common agricultural Page 13

#### Royal authority

Jordan's new ruler, King Abdullah II. has flexed his political muscle ordering four senior generals to retire in a sweeping reshuffle of the army.....

#### Hillary warning

Hillary Clinton's most likely opponent in a race for the Senate has given a warning of the rough reception awaiting her in New York over her views on a Palestinian

#### Long haul from the distant past

At least prehistoric man knew why he was laboriously transporting giant bluestones from west Wales to Stonebenge. The volunteers who have been given £100,000 lottery money have no such excuse for making the five-month journey. Dressed in skins and using Stone Age technology, they intend to haul a four tonne rock 240 miles to Salisbury Plain.



Coral Jessop-Burnell of Shenington Primary School, Oxfordshire, celebrates a third year of perfect test scores: special supplement

HSBC hit: The Asian economic crisis hit HSBC harder than expected. forcing it to book a £1.6 billion charge against bad debts. Page 27 Levi lockout: The jeans manufacturer, is sacking a third of its North American workforce, shipping production overseas\_\_\_\_ \_Page 27 C&W post: Graham Wallace has landed one of the top jobs in UK telecoms, being appointed chief executive of Cable & Wireless .... Page 27

ther 6 per cent amid speculation that the group could soon accept a E3 billion bid..... Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 38.7 to 6069.9. The pound fell .68 cents to \$1.6227 and rose .llp against the euro to 67.98. The index was unchanged at 101.9..... .....Page 30

Rank rumour: shares rallied a fur-

Football: Fifa gave the go-shead for Arsenal and Sheffield United to restage their FA Cup fifth-round tie at Highbury tonight. Arsenal won the first game with an "unsporting" but legal goal .... Tennis: David Lloyd, the British Davis Cup captain, has attacked the standard of British tennis after

a dispute about wild-card entries

for the Guardian Direct Cup in Bat-Page 52 tersea. Snooker: Stephen Hendry confirmed that he is not a spent force with an emphatic victory in the final of the Scottish Open\_Page 50 Golf: With a comfortable victory in California, Ernie Els confirmed that he is in excellent form for the Andersen Consulting Matchplay event this week... Page 46

Corporate anget: The frustration, futility and fatuousness of office life is wittily depicted in the satirical movie Office Space, which opened in America on Friday....... Page 35. Felsty songstress: Ani DiFranco has graduated from the status of protest singer and lesbian icon into first-class singer-songwriter, to judge from her exceptional London Page 35

Countdown mer: The host of the TV gameshow, Richard Whiteley, tried his hand at live entertainment with mixed success....... Page 36

Dellas rediscovered: Scottish Opera has staged The Magic Founmin, an 1895 opera by Prederick Delius that has never been seen in Britain. The verdict? Neither a masterpiece nor a dud \_\_\_\_\_Page 37

TOMORROW/

IN THE TIMES

INTERFACE

great Playstation

game? Metal Gear Solid reviewed

How modern sculptors

to new developments

Is this the last

**HOMES** 

are adding

a touch of class

Private heartbreak There are no nationwide rules in Britain about who can get NHS fertility treatment. For many childless couples it has meant heartbreak and cost them thousands ......... Pages 16, 17

Children's Society: Keeping young people out of jail ...... Pages 22, 23

Missing your A pension can be the largest asset owned by a couple but women who divorce can miss out. The Government is trying to ad-Rights on: The legal struggle for human rights will be at the centre of. the Times/Justice Awards. Frances Gibb looks at candidates...Page 43

School report: The test results of England's primary schools, graded and compared with previous years.

It was a frustrating weekend for the cause of peace in Kosovo. With the deadline for agreement on a peace plan wisely extended, the best chance for peace lies with keeping the Contact Group focused on its bomb Serbian military targets if Slobodan Milosevic, remains defi-- The New York Times

Proview: The life of Julie Burchill. Close Up (BBC2, 9.30pm). Review: We will have to wait to see if Births. Marriages and Deaths is a cracker, says Joe Joseph..... Pages 50, 51

#### Condon should stay

The Commissioner is right to take his stand. He should not resign unless, as he has himself conceded, he is accused personally of dishonesty or malpractice. This is exceptionally unlikely.....

#### First steps

Mr Vajpayee and Mr Sharif must pick imaginative and flexible men as their chief negotiators. They must revisit the talks to insist on progess\_

#### Conceiving change

Couples seeking infertility treatment on the NHS play a lottery of life. The table we publish today is a graphic illustration of so-called postcode prescribing"...... Page 19

#### LIBBY PURVES

A plague on both their houses. Let us leave the fray and quietly meditate on the failure of certain parts of Britain to outgrow the pointless evil of racism\_\_\_\_

R. Campbell-Johnston What gain does Freud foresee in accepting the Queen as his subject? The more sinister answer is that he

aims at subversion ...... Page 18

#### MICHAEL GOVE

The Tories may, so far, have escaped neutering but the Prime Minister certainly had the Liberal Demecono 1111

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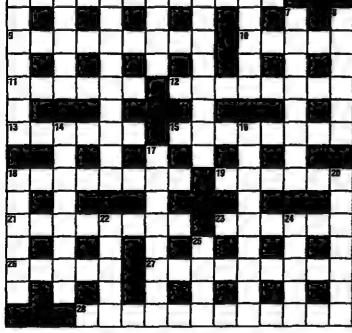
#### PETER RIDDELL

When politicians and the press get worked up into a state of outrage, it is usually bogus. The leak raises many serious issues but freedom of the press is not one \_\_\_\_ Page 6

Sarah Kane, playwright; John Smithes, port trader, Henry Kendati, physicist....

Government "complacent" on GM foods; welfare benefit cuts; classical composers' income blow; employment "blackmail"; mercenaries in Africa: leadership of progressive

#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21.034



ACROSS

- 1 Confederacy protects port
- 9 Stirred up new gin and it mix-10 It controls water level, we 27
- 11 Fall asleep like don, perhaps? (3.3). 12 Invent a complaint to make
- mother hang around (8). 13 Publish that old American author (6).
- 15 Driver, perhaps, used by one of its members (4.4).
- 18 It could be arranged as tab she provided for drink (8).
- 19 Get more mature wife into class (4.2).
- 2) State that's all right, in short (8).



23 Cowboy's mostly unsophisticated love (6). 26 Central American alcohol found in Panama, for example

Choice about time for exercise 28 Abandon TV for a toy (4-2-3-3).

Fly over deliverer (7). Opened and destroyed (5). Concorde is so extravagant

Deceive House over a vote (4). Part of arch that has more functions (8). 6 It's hot in food store in Asian

city (5). Close a humble dwelling (8). 8 Offspring of woman brought in, an innocent child

14 Little bird getting settled in comfortably (8).

16 Hang frame crookedly here in Ireland (9). 17 National emblem made of paste? (8). 18 Immediately take remedial ac-

tion, having caught cold (2.4).

20 US city that's fireproof (7).

22 Hard battle in board game (5).

24 Conservative mether appears to be upwardly mobile (5).

25 Destroyed when cut (4). Times Two Crossword, page 52

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0116 41 1216

Moon sets: 1.21 pm First quarter today (pndon 5.29 pm to 6.57 am Bristol 5.39 pm to 7.07 am Bristol 5.39 pm to 7.07 am Edinburgh 5.33 pm to 7.18 am Manchester 5.34 pm to 7.09 am Persance 5.53 pm to 7.17 am



DOUBLE YOUR TOKENS WITH THIS WEEK Service for party in party of the service of the se

SCHOOLS

□ Today (Tuesday): morning showers in eastern Scotland and England could fall as steet or snow in north. Most of Scotland, England and Wales will start dry, but rein will spread from west into Weles and southern England. Snow in western Scotland. Weakering band of rain, sleet and snow will affect the erea from southeast England to northwest Scotland tonight.

□ London, SE England, Chemnel Islands: surrry spells, clouder from west, Wind NW, moderate to fresh. Max 7C (45P).

□ E Anglia, E Netlands, E, NE & Centrel N England, sleet or snow showers, but mostly dry with surrry spells. Wind NW, fresh. Max 6C (43P).

England, Wales, Lake Diefrict, hale of Mant bright, then cloud bringing rain or snow. Wind NW, light. Max 7G (45F).

Bordera, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW & NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cantral Hightlands, Argyst bright day. Snow in evening in west. Wind light, variable. Max 5G (41F).

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orlaney, Shetlandt heavy snow showers easing off for sunny spells in afternoon. Wind NW, tresh. Max 3G (37F).

N Ireland: sleet and snow brining slowly to rain. Wind SE, moderate, Max 5G (41F).

Bepatible of Irelandt cloudy and wet. ☐ Republic of Ireland: cloudy and wet.
Wind S to NW, light to fresh. Max 9C (48F).
☐ Outlook: surny spells and wintry showers, becoming milder.

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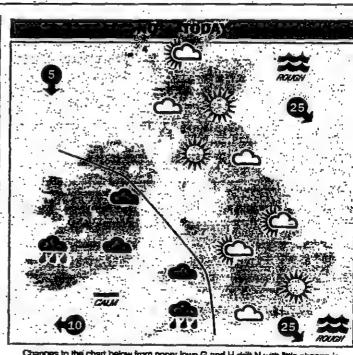
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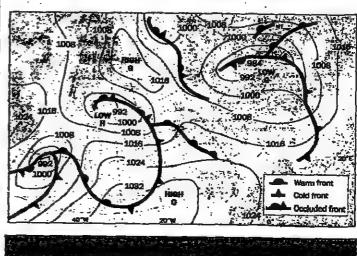
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BUIL Lifeboats



Changes to the chart below from noon; lows G and H drift N with little change in ssure. High G moves slowly NE and declines. High O persists in sau.



1857 12:11 16:34 23:09 18:24 17:44 17:10 15:45 23:45 23:45 23:45 23:45 23:59 20:13 83 63 21 42 5.7 5.7 5.7 4.6 4:00 6:31 2:00 4:36 11:25 10:24 11:40 4:24 4:34 11:33 9:01 4:25 4.04 11:57 10:35 3:48 4:49 10:07 5:18 4:31 3:14 11:21 11:05 11:33 7:47 31 10.5 4.8 6.2 3.7 4.8 3.8 4.9 7.7 7.9 5.7

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Arts, page 36

**BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft** 

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23 1999

## Rank rises on talk of £3bn consortium bid

By Fraser Nelson AND DOMINIC WALSH

First steps

Conceiving change

Campbell-Johnse

RANK GROUP shares rallied a further 6 per cent yesterday on speculation that the troubled leisure company could soon accept a £3 billion bid from a group of private investors. Market rumours suggest that Rank could be facing a 275p-a-share cash offer, becoming one of the largest firms to fall to Britain's increasingly powerful venture capitalists. Its shares rose 121/ap to 235p yesterday, with more than seven million

The moves come as venture capital experts predict that their industry now has more than £16 billion at its disposal to snap up London's underperforming quoted companies.

At the weekend, William Hill, the bookmaker, was sold to Cinven and

lion, halting its stock market flota-tion. Nomura, the vendor, was unhappy at the institutional response to the proposed flotation, which had led to the offer price being cut.

The William Hill debacle has fuelled speculation that venture capitalists are poised to move on Rank. Rumours of a bid for Rank have been rife within the company since Andrew Teare was suddenly ousted as chief executive last October, City

The state of the s

analysts estimate the group's breakup value at up to 320p a share.

However, speculation of a possible 275p-a-share bid — equivalent to £3.1 billion including debt was described by one insider as 'very premature".

Douglas Yates, acting chief executive, admitted at Rank's results meeting last week that "we've had loss of people knocking on our door", and Sir Denys Henderson, chairman,

reference to venture capitalists. However, it is understood that

most inquiries have related to only the leisure division, rather than the whole company, and Sir Denys said that a fire sale of assets would be "absolutely crazy".

Rank last year rebuffed a tentative £900 million approach for its lei-sure division, including Odeon cinemas and Mecca bingo halls, from

tor, in conjunction with Candover.

Cinven, which, with Candover, has been reported to be leading the consortium, sought to play down suggestions of involvement. It is understood to be focusing on a bid for the RAC's motoring service, which is thought to be choosing between offers by Lex Service and GE Capital.

#### **Business** Today

Jnilever shares soar



#### Anatole Kaletsky

on euroland and the US deficit

NORTH SEA OIL Brent15-day(May). \$10.70 (\$10.65) COLD

London close \$287.25 (\$286.95) denotes midday trading prices

Commentary, page 29

Sales in the Americas to

talled \$3.9 billion last year with

\$1.7 billion sales in Europe, the

Gavin Power, a Levi

Middle East and Africa.

#### exclusive designer labels such bour in Third World countries. Strauss spokesman, said: "We Last year, Levi Strauss closed II facilities in an effort to as Clavin Klein. took our eye off the consumer Levi Strauss said it will move manufacturing duties to in the early Nineties and now bring its production capacity in we're ... trying to surround line with actual demand. That contractors around the world. the consumer with products The company said any contracmove affected 7,000 workers. and marketing." After the latest cuts the compators it hires in other countries

ny will have 19,000 employees.

child labour and environmen

tal standards. Other manufac-

turers, most notably Nike,

have been suffered from accu-

sations of employing child la-

C&W puts its faith in saviour of cable TV

By RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

Sales by the largest US clothing business and manufacturer of the famous 501 jeans fell by 13 per cent last year, leading to yesterday's decision to close half its 22 factories

Levi's cuts back 30% of US workers

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

terday told to swap their 50ls ers in the last century, have lost for P45s. The maker of the fatheir teenage rebel appeal reterday told to swap their 50ls ers in the last century, have lost company, said: "These steps Strauss adopted guidelines covering working conditions, and other benefits."

competitive." Fruit of the

Loom, another large US cloth-

ing company, has already

been closing plants while

sales continue to rise for once-

will be bound by its "stringent

signed to be worn by gold min- of Levi Strauss, the parent code of ethics". In 1991, Levi Affected workers will receive

THE global search for a new chief executive at Cable & Wireless ended yesterday with the appointment of a home-grown telecoms boss with an office just a stone's throw from C&W. Graham Wallace, 50, was named as the successor to Dick Brown, the American who quit to run EDS in the

United States. For the past two years Mr Wallace has been thief execu-tive of Cable & Wireless Communications (CWC), the cable group in which C&W has a 53

per cent interest. Mr Wallace was chosen for one of the top jobs in UK telecoms ahead of nine other candidates, including six from America. He made his mark by forging CWC through the merger of four competing cable companies - Mercury Communica-

tions, Bell Cablemedia, Nynex CableComms and Videotron. He is credited with saving the cable TV industry from col-

for ten years and while finance director was closely involved in the merger of British Satellite Broadcasting and Sky. Before moving to CWC he was chief executive of Granada's video and television rental business and later chief executive of the restaurants and services division. His appointment was well received in the City yesterday. C&W shares finished 2p down on the day at 850%p but this represented a recovery after rumours of a bid for Telecom Italia had

forced the price down. Mr Wallace said he planned to continue and even accelerate the polices of his predecessor with an increasing focus on data and the Internet. He will be succeeded at CWC by Greg Clarke, the cable group's chief operating officer. CWC shares fell 5p to 705p.

Commentary, page 29

## **Euro slips** to record

By Alasdair Murray **ECONOMICS** CORRESPONDENT

lows

THE euro slipped to record lows against the dollar and the pound yesterday after central bank governors at last weekend's G7 meeting failed to indicate concern at the dollar's

growing strength. Traders interpreted the lack of comment as evidence that G7 leaders are not unhappy with the dollar's rise and are unlikely to intervene unless the markets become volatile. A strong dollar eases pressure on struggling European and Japanese economies

The euro fell to \$1.0969 compared with a launch price of \$1.1685, before recovering slightly to trade at \$1.1030. The dollar also hit a ten-week high against the yen reaching Y122.50. The pound followed the dol-

lar higher with the euro touching a record low of 67.70p before recovering to close only marginally down at 67.98p. The pound, however, made modest osses against the dollar falling from \$1.6295 to \$1.6227.

## HSBC hit hard by Asian economic turmoil

BY PAUL ARMSTRONG

THE Asian economic crisis hit HSBC Holdings harder than expected, forcing the company to book huge rises in bad debt charges to \$2.6 billion (£1.6 billion), triggering a 19 per cent slump in full-year profits.

The international financial services group, parent company of Midland Bank, revealed yesterday that the charges had cut 1998 earnings to \$6.57 billion. HSBC said that its total bad debt charge leapt from \$1 billion in 1997 after substantial percases in all regions except

The profit result was about \$200 million below most City ectations and resulted in HSBC shares closing 4 per cent lower at £16.09, the biggest drop of the FTSE-100



Bond: "outlook uncertain"

HSBC also announced a \$700 million agreement to buy a 70 per cent stake in South Korea's Seouibank, signalling its belief that the country's economy has stabilised. However, analysts said that

fears of more bad debts in Hong Kong would almost certainly lead them to downgrade 1999 profit forecasts for HSBC from about \$7.3 billion to between \$6.5 billion and \$7 bil-

HSBC said the bad debt charge in Hong Kong, where it generated 37 per cent of its profit, more than tripled last year to \$747 million.

The charge jumped from \$615 million to \$1.2 billion in he rest of the Asian-Pacific region and from \$69 million to

\$369 million in Europe.
John Bond, group chairman, said the outlook for

conditions deteriorated in the second half. But he said there was evidence of a recovery in several other Asian econo-HSBC also unveiled a se-

Hong Kong and Malaysia re-

mained uncertain after credit

ries of strategic measures yesterday, including plans to seek a listing this year on the New York Stock Exchange. It is already quoted in London and Hong Kong. Mr Bond said the move

would give the group access to the world's biggest capital market and stimulate international demand for the company's stock. To help the listing, HSBC

share capital into a singleclass share denominated in US dollars. It will also seek shareholder approval for a share buyback

will consolidate its two-tiered

scheme, though Mr Bond said there was no plan at this stage to exercise the right. The charges overshadowed

an otherwise solid result, which was highlighted by the 5.8 per cent rise in operating profit before provisions to \$9.05 billion.

Net interest income was up 5.5 per cent at \$11.55 billion and the dividend rose II per cent to 92.5 cents."

However, the bad debt charge as a percentage of customer loans increased to 1.1 per cent from 0.4 per cent.

HSBC's Midland Bank subsidiary reported a I per cent fall in pre-tax profit to £1.5 bil-Mr Bond said HSBC's 1999

earnings would hinge largely on the US economy, which he described as one of last year's great success stories".

"While we remain confident in the (Asian) region's longterm prospects, we do not rule out the possibility of further setbacks," he said. HSBC's belief that parts of

Asia were recovering was reflected by its move to buy a controlling stake in Seoulbank, signing a memo of understanding with the South Korean

Seoulbank is one of the largest commercial banks in South Korea with total assets of \$24.8 billion at Decem-

Tempus, page 30

#### Olivetti to raise extra capital for Telecom bid

By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

OLIVETTI, the Italian conclomerate which is plotting a £36 billion takeover of Italy's national telephone utility, Telecom Italia, is planning a ma-jor capital raising which could increase the control of its chief executive, Roberto Colaninno, over the company.

WORKERS at Levi's were yes-

mous jeans fired a third of its North American workforce

and said it will relocate produc-

In a big shake-up at the larg-est clothing business in the US, half of its 22 factories are

to be closed and 5,900 jobs

lost. The drastic step taken by

the privately owned company

comes after a sustained loss of

The 501 jeans, originally de-

market share.

tion to cheaper sites abroad.

A board meeting, scheduled for tomorrow, is likely to approve the share issue which would raise additional funds for the bid. A major source of the new capital is expected to be Bell, the Luxembourg company which already owns 15 per cent of Olivetti. Bell is controlled by Mr Colaninno and a group of Italian business allies. It is believed a capital increase is planned which would give Bell as much as a quarter share of the company.

The bid has sparked frenzied activity among international bankers. Olivetti's advisers, Lehman Bros, Donaldson Lufkin Jeanrette, Chase and Mediobanca, are currently working on a massive \$25 billion syndicated loan, which would provide much of the finance for the cash element of the bid. Telecom Italia has appointed JP Morgan and Lazard Bros.

cently and, as prices of design-er labels tumbled, Levi's have

lost some of their popularity.

Last year, sales fell 13 per cent

The 30 per cent cut in jobs

will affect workers across the

southern states. It is the latest

blow to the ailing American tex-

tiles industry as Jobs disappear

to the low-wage economics of

John Ermatinger, president

Asia and Latin American.

to \$6 billion (£3.6 billion).

Fund managers in the wide-ly held Telecom Italia have expressed their concern about the bid price of €10 per share. James Golob. analyst at Deut-sche Morgan Grenfell, com-mented: "They are all saying it is worth more than £10 and they don't like the structure of the bid with a series of control-

lapse by providing better service, systems and marketing. He spent eight years at Xerox, including two in America. He then worked at Granada

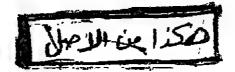
Oui.

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## whisky brands

Diageo's UDV spirits division is to collect \$185.5 mil-lion (£114 million) from the sale of eight Canadian whisky brands to Ca-nandaigua Brands, the US drinks group that recently acquired its smaller UK rival. Matthew Clark.

The deal follows Diageo's decision to review its spirits portfolio in the wake of the merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan. The brands being sold, which have annual sales of \$74 million, include Black Velvet and Golden Wedding, but UDV is retaining Gibson's, a premium whisky. A similar exercise is un-

der way at Diageo's Pillsbury food arm, which recently announced plans to sell six non-core brands for \$192 million.

Fund sales soar

Private investors flocked to buy corporate bond funds in January pushing the value of unit trusts to £185.7 billion, up 53 per cent com-pared with January 1998. Figures published yesterday by the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Autif) show corporate bond funds were the strongest sellers last month, as savers sought security and higher yields amid falling interest rates. Total gross Peps sales were up 37 per cent over the year bringing the total amount invested in Peps to just under £50 billion.

US help for ML ML Laboratories is bringing in an American company to help it to develop Viraldon, its problematic Aids drug. Work on Viraldon has suffered lengthy delays because of ML's difficulties in recruiting suitable patients. These have been exacerbated by the European launch of new medicines for the HTV infection. ML has appointed General Medical Industries of Virginia to finance and conduct the trials needed to secure approval for Viraldon in the US.

## UDV sells US energy companies agree \$6bn takeover

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

DOMINION RESOURCES. former owner of East Midlands Electricity, yesterday agreed to buy Consolidated Natural Gas for \$6.3 billion (£3.9 billion) to form the fourth-biggest US utility. The deal follows a pattern of industry consolidation in the US as local markets are deregulated and former monopolists are forced to compete with out-of-

state rivals. Dominion will pay a 22 per cent premium over pre-bid prices, in the form of 1.52 Dominion shares per Consolidated share. It will assume Consolidated's \$2.15 billion debt. Other US energy companies, including Enron, Texas

Utilities and Reliant Energy. have also pursued expansion strategies that have led them to consider linking with utilities in the UK, where deregulation has progressed further.

Dominion last July sold East Midlands Electricity to PowerGen for £1.8 billion after owning it for only 17 months. Dominion made a profit of £120 million on the deal. Some of the profits were set aside for acquisitions in America.

Consolidated is one of the many oil and gas companies created from the wreckage of John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company after the Justice Department forced its break-up in 1911. It provides natural gas to 2 million retail customers in a few eastern states, owns an interstate pipeline, and is a big producer of oil and natural gas.

Thomas Capps, Dominion's chief executive, said: "It's a chance to take and sell electrici ty to gas customers, and decide every morning whether to store gas, sell it, or make electricity. In another utility deal, Sem-

pra yesterday agreed to acquire KN Energy, America's second-largest natural gas pipeline and storage operator, for \$1.9 billion. Richard Farman, Sempra chairman, said: The attributes of a successful energy-service company in-

clude a large geographical footprint, a good stable of energyrelated products and services. wholesale trading expertise and a strong asset base." When completed, Domin-

ion's takeover of Consolidated will create the premier fully integrated electricity and gas group in the US, with revenues of \$8.8 billion, assets of \$23.9 billion, annual cashflow of \$2 billion; and 17,000 employees. The combined company will have an energy portfolio of more than 20,000 mega-watts of power generation, 2.4 trillion cubic feet equivalent in



Tony Allan, left, and Ronnie Truss, managing director, celebrating BGR's profits advance at its new Fish! restaurant

BGR, the London restaurant group and food supplier, has aunched Fish!, a new restaurant brand intended to be developed into a nationwide chain. The first Fish! opened at Borough Market, South London, at the weekend (Do-

minic Walsh writes). Tony Allan, chairman and chief executive, said he was close to securing two more sites, including one in Smith-

In a number of our major markets 1998 saw the

toughest economic conditions for many years.

That the Group is able to report increased operating

profits before provisions of US\$9,051 million, a

return on shareholders' funds of 15.5 per cent and

declare dividends of US\$0.925 per share reflects

the spread and robustness of our businesses

and our ability to generate revenues and hold

The level of bad and doubtful debt provisions

required to meet the Group's prudent policy on

non-performing loans resulted in a 21 per cent

decline in profit attributable to shareholders

1998

We are planning to seek a listing on the New York Group Chairman

compared with 1997.

BGR aims to take Fish! everywhere

Stock Exchange during 1999 to supplement our

existing dual primary listings on the London and

Hong Kong Stock Exchanges. As a result we propose

to consolidate our share capital into a single class

of ordinary shares in US dollars and a share split so

that shareholders will receive three new shares of

The year ahead promises to be very challenging. However, we enter it confident in our strength to

withstand further volatility and in our ability to

build on the strength of the Group to deliver

1997

further value to shareholders.

USSm

John R.H. Bond

US\$0.50 each for each share they now hold.

field, and had a target of six openings by the end of next year. The first Fishl, which cost £600,000 to develop, had 7.5 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £2.1 million, on turnover to turn away 200 diners when it opened on Saturday. up 15 per cent to £15.4 million.

The dividend is 2.3p. Bank BGR's flagship in Aldwych, made a £1.4 million profit and saw a 4 per cent rise in likefor-like covers. Two Bankstyle outlets are to open in Westminster and Birming-For its first full year since ham. Christmas trading was joining the Alternative Investbuoyant", BGR said. ment Market, BGR reported a

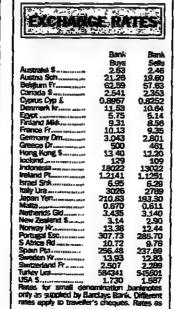
Crestport, a restaurant software supplier owned by Mr Allan and his fellow directors.

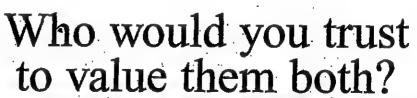
BGR is paying £250,000 for

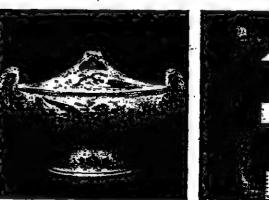
#### Courtaulds costs Akzo

AKZO NOBEL, the Dutch-Swedish chemicals group, saw net profit in 1998 slump i7 per cent as a result of the acquisition of Courtaulds, the British chemicals business, and the global economic slowdown in

Courtaulds made a net negative contribution of SS million guilders (£17 million), includacquisition financing charges, mainly because of an unexpected decline in the fibres markets. Akzo's net profit was 1.343 billion guilders.







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#### The European Index-Tracking PEP \*\* Translated ut the exchange rate on the dividend payment dates.

Source Micropal/LGM on an office to had basis based on all PEP charges with gross income en-invested from hunch (I 10 96 to (I, 12 99 Pest performance is not necessarily a guide to factor performance. From the 10 to 19 12, credits on UK dividend distributions will only credits on UK shrideral distributions will only be able to be reclaimed by PEPs at a reducer rate of UPs. Buth capital and incrume values mago aren as were as on and was they not get back the amount you invested. The exchange rate variations may cause the value of overveas investments in increase or decrease, full written details are writingle for proposed. All statements are context as at 01.02.99. The Government have amounteed that contributions can only be made to PEP until April 1990. From that done a new tax printinged arongs website, the individual Savings Account (BA) will be available Legal & General (Darcet) Limited Registered in England No 270.0000. Registered Office. Temple Court. It Queen Victoria Street, Limited ECAN-17P. Representative only of the Legal & General institution group, members of which are regished by the Personal Investment Authority and Diffic for the purposes of recummentation, advance on product to beging the sourcers and investment products beging the

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US\$m 8,130 Profit attributable to shareholders 4,318 5.487 41,092 41,562 Capital resources US\$

Our results for 1998

97.1 Basic earnings per share 2.06 Dividends per share 0.83\*\*

The Group's total capital ratio and tier 1 capital ratio at year end 1998 were 13.6 per cent and 9.7 per cent, respectively

 The second interim dividend of US\$0.555 per share is translated at the closing rate. Where required, the dividend will be converted into sterling or Hong Kong dollars at the exchange rate on 16 April 1999



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Registered Office and Group Head Office: 10 Lower Thames Street. London EC3R 6AE, United Kingdom. Web: www.hsbcgroup.com

Air Bank One to cut France jobs in London soar on BANK ONE, the fourth largest US bank holding company, yesterday armounced it would cut 200 jobs, almost all in Lonfirst day don, as a result of reining in its foreign exchange and derivatives operations in Europe. David Vitale, vice-chairman, said the bank had decided that its European customer base in these markets was "not strategically critical". He said that the redundancies were not a response to trading losses, and that margins in the decivatives operation had declined in recent BY CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR margins in the derivatives operation had declined in recent years. The job losses represent 20 per cent of the bank's inter-national commercial banking workforce outside the US. The

**Shares of** 

AIR FRANCE shares soared

in the first day's trading yester-

day as index funds scrambled

to pick up stock in the airline

after the Government's sale of

Enthusiasm for the French

carrier spilt over into other air-

line stocks, including British

er, has been expectations that

Air France will be able to cut its staff costs more aggressive-

ly after last summer's deal

with the pilots' union, where

shares were offered in lieu of

pay. One analyst said: "Some 30 per cent of costs are staff.

People are anticipating that the ratio will fall."

However, Air France, has left key issues unresolved, in-

cluding the sale of its 29 per

cent stake in Amadeus, the

computerised reservation sys-

airline alliance.

ta or Continental.

a 20 per cent interest.

bank also announced that it would strengthen its assetbacked financing team in London. Bank One was formed last year from the merger of Banc One and First Chicago NBD. The London redundancies are part of the "repositioning" of its international activities follow-

redundancies will leave some 300 employees in London. The

#### **AB Airlines in talks**

AB Airlines, the budget carrier, admitted yesterday that it had had talks with a number of other leading airlines over the past three months but said that no formal takeover offer. had been forthcoming. The admission by Brian Beal, chairman, came after reports that Virgin Airways had been in talks with AB. Mr Beal said: "Talks continue with a number of airlines on commercial agreements and strategic alliances." The lack of any hard bid news saw the shares unmoved at their record low of 34%p.

#### Akers in £2.2m float

CHRIS AKERS, the former chief executive of Leeds United, the quoted football club, who departed after a row on the future strategy of the company, is to return to the stock mar-ket with the flotation of a £2.2 million Internet business. Trading in shares of Sports Internet on AIM will start early next month after a placing to raise £1.95 million. The company plans to acquire businesses with specialist expertise in the operation of sports-related websites and in betting or

#### CMG's German buy

CMG, the Anglo-Dutch IT service group, yesterday said it had spent £8.2 million on buying Partner Consult, a German consultancy. Cor Stuttenheim, CMG chairman, said: "We de continue to pursue our objective of expanding geographically within Europe. This acquisition accelerates our advance in the regionalised German market." Partner Consult operates from offices in Hamburg and Hanover and specialises in transport, banking and insurance IT services. It had pre-tax profits of £700,000 last year on turnover of £10.7 million.

#### Falcon discusses sale

192 --

**25**.

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tem; and its participation in an SHARES in Falcon Holdings, the listed valve and pipeline The carrier is also too large company based in Essex, soared yesterday when it said that an outlit to take part in either It was in talks with Oliver Ashworth Group to sell its Walker and Staff subsidiary. Oliver Ashworth, which is in the of the existing alliances, which comprise British Airways's same business, was bought by the French group Compagoneworld and Lufthansa's nie de Saint-Gobain last year in a £34 million deal. Colin Star alliance. Speculation has focused on a link-up with Alita-Pearce, Falcon's finance director, said that shareholders should take no action pending a further announcement. The lia and a US carrier, either Delshares leapt 43p to 180p.

the headhunters scoured the world to find a new boss for Cable & Wireless but eventually tracked him down:

sitting round the corner running Cable & Wireless Communications. Sir Ralph Robins and his board may have been understandably carry of appointing and design and the carry of appointing and design and the carry of appointing and design and des

ably wary of appointing another bransatlantic high-fiver after the abrupt departure of Dick Brown.

After all, Rod Olsen has stepped

in as acting chief executive twice but will not be around to do it a third time. While C&W undoubt-

edly needs a boss with vision, it is

also in need of one who intends to

stick around for a while.

Despite the initially unimpressed reaction of the analysts yesterday, Graham Wallace may

prove to be just the man for the

job. For a company that has expe-

rienced the spectacular ousting

down-to-earth manner. He may

not be armed with the same mati-

nee idol smile as Mr Brown but

he does have other qualifications which may be longer lasting.

At CWC, he has been demonstrating that he can take Mr Brown's big idea and make it

work. Putting four cable compa-nies into one was very clever but

and orthopaedics work.

renew and upgrade overhead lines in the £2.2 billion West Coast Mainline modernisation to a joint venture between Balfour Beatty and GTRM.

## Wallace, a man to stick with gromits

it has fallen to Graham Wallace to make it function. He did not spend ten years at deal-driven Granada in vain; the experiences he absorbed there have helped in making CWC gel. There is still work to do. In particular, there must eventually be a merger among the cable television companies. Mr Wallace was already aying the ground for such a deal. Those same analysts who were questioning his new ap-pointment yesterday seemed con-fident that his successor will step easily into his shoes and sort things out. If succession plan-

There will be bigger deals for him to do now. The pace of change in the telecoms world furious. One of the first things he could do if he are the part of the part could do if he really wanted to im-press the City is to sort out the uncomfortable shared ownership of One-2-One. A flotation would win him plenty of admirers and, given the current rating of Vodafone et al, the potential share price would be stratospheric.

ning is a reflection on the boss,

then the presence of Greg Clarke at CWC reflects well on Mr Wal-

Although yesterday he was insisting that there was no need for more mergers and that C&W



**COMMENTARY** by our City Editor

will grow organically, the opportunities may soon make him change his mind. But he will probably join BT in deciding that the Italian telecoms business is best left to the Italians. Olivetti's emergence as the bidder in this extraordinary saga says more about the Italian Government's wish to keep ownership in Italy than it does about commercial logic. Mr Wallace, however, will stick to logic.

#### Funds overplay their Hands

f Guy Hands is selling, would you be keen to buy? It may be that the phenomenally successful Nomura deal maker is sticking to the time honoured City maxim of always leav-ing something for the next man, but then again . . .

But it took less than four days for CinVen and CVC Capital Partners to finalise the terms on

which they relieved Mr Hands of William Hill. He did not even have to return from his beach holiday to clinch the deal, with its defily delivered snub to Warburg

Dillon Read. The buyers knew the business, having been outbid by Mr Hands first time round. It is something of a tribute to him if they believe that, in just 15 months of ownership, he has managed to increase the value so that they are prepared to now pay enough to deliver him a £125

million profit.

Competitors in the private equity business are shaking their heads and muttering that this could prove to be the deal too far.

That is what losers abstract for That is what losers always say but this time they do not appear to have been fighting CinVen and CVC for the deal. Like the institutions who spurned the planned share offer, they were wary of the prospects for a betting business.

Yet there are now so many pri-

vate equity funds in search of investments that they do risk tripping over each other as they snift around the share registers. The fear is that the huge amount of

money they have to spend will, in-evitably, lead to over-paying. When the funds begin to buy from each other, it certainly flashes a red warning light. Private eq-uity funds like to see the exit route at the end of their investment, and a hefty uplift on the way, but it is an unusual development for another fund rather than the stock market to provide that exit. Given the reception to Mr Hands's planned flotation, what will be the exit route for William Hills' new owners?

in an over-crowded market place, the funds are hoping that they will be able to keep busy by servicing the growing desire of smaller public companies to go private. Yet with the number of players in the market now swol-len by overseas funds such as Ad-vent and KKR, even the disenchantment of many company directors may not be enough to provide the deal flow that is required. Many of the funds have turned

their attention to continental Europe but found potential deals scarce. It may be that 3i's bid for Electra shows the way: they will have to start cannibalising.

#### Sir Alastair waits on the platform

hy is it that everything associated with railways seems to be late, John Prescott might ask himself as he sits comfortably dreaming up anti-car policies in the back of his speeding Jaguar. In particu-lar, why has his effort to set up a strategic rail authority with a convincing figure at its head yet to pass through the bureaucratic Clapham Junction of his own

transport department? There is a shortlist of one. Sir Alastair Morton. His job is to sound fierce and to eyeball Rail-track's equally aggressive Sir Bob Horton in an attempt to hide Mr Prescott's failure to persuade Tony Blair to give him any powers over recalcitrant rail operators. With two days to go. however, bureaucrats, armed with Mr

Prescott's need to appear squeaky clean, have yet to allow Sir Alastair near his brief.
On Thursday, Whitehall sherpas, nominated industry scapegoats, carefully selected repre-sentatives of the public and regulators with an uncertain future will gather for a great rail sum-mit. Possibly. Sir Alastair will emerge from a cake.

Afterwards, in the manner of summits, the Deputy Prime Minister will doubtless announce that he has banged heads together and that agreement was reached on all key points. There is certainly agreement on one: that Mr Prescott can do virtually nothing to curb buffer-headed rail companies until their franchises end between 2003 and 2015. He may not say much about that.

#### The wrong trousers

THE jeans that helped to build America will soon be built in the Philippines or Colombia to cut costs. The only garment created in the 19th century still worn to-day has followed Nike to become a victim of its own iconographic success. Generations of young people, who rebelled identically with the help of Levis, have been seen wearing the wrong trou-sers, as prices of lesser but trendier labels tumble. It was ever thus, 501s should retain a niche but the ultimate fashion always makes way for the next.

#### Pearson disposes of Extel

Pearson is selling Extel, the company research business it bought for £74 million in 1993, to Primark, the US equities data company, for just £19 million. Extel is said to be losing £3 million a year. Turnover was Ell million last year. Primark owns the Topic

and Datastream services. Stephen Hill, chief executive of Pearson's Financial Times group, said: "Extel has some fine products, but it lacks the global, comprehensive data sets its cusiomers increasingly demand, it is a business that is clearly worth more to Primark than it is to us."

SocGen charge Société Générale, the French bank, said it will take a 6398 million (£270 million) provision ahead of restructuring after its takeover of the rival Paribas. This will cut final net profits 27 per cent to 6675 million, although operat-ing profits rose 15 per cent. SocGen made no forecast for 1999. Its offer for Paribas closes on March 18.

3i buys engineers Eight precision engineering businesses, including six based in England, have been sold to 3i, the venture capitalist, by National Industries Group, the Kuwai, ti company. 31 is paying £170 million for an 80 per cent stake. The firms, to be called The Mettis Group. will focus on aerospace

Railtrack work Railtrack is poised to give

a £200 million contract to

Pinkerton's sold Securitas, Europe's leading security services group, is buying Pinkerton's, the US firm once known for tracking down Wild West outlaws, for \$384 million (£235 million).



Demand from the military and civil aviation sectors should keep business brisk for Ultra Electronics, according Ian Yeoman, finance director, right, with Julian Blogh, chief executive. The electronics equipment manufacturer said pre-tax profits for 1998 grew from £18.1 million to £21.1 million. The total dividend is 8.1p (7.2p).

## Breakdown of merger talks leaves Volvo open to bid

BY CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL **BUSINESS EDITOR** 

VOLVO could become vulnerable to a takeover bid after the failure of its strategy to merge Scania with its own trucks divi-

Volvo said yesterday that its talks with Investor, which con-trois 40 per cent of Scania, had failed in a disagreement over price. Industry analysts be-lieve the company will now come under pressure from shareholders to find a home

By Chris Ayres

ONLY 10 per cent of companies that are dependent on their computer sys-

tems have some form of emergency

back-up in case they go wrong. Guardi-

an IT, the disaster-recovery company,

Guardian IT made the claim after a

for more than £4.5 billion in cash which will fill its coffers on completion of the sale of its car division to Ford. Leif Johannson, Volvo's

chief executive, said the company's 13 per cent interest in Scania would not be sold "regardless of possible changes in ownership". He would not speculate on future discussions with Investor. "We are in no hurry," he said. Volvo's stake could effective-

ly block a rival offer for Scania under Swedish takeover rules. A spokesman for Volvo said

busy year which, it reported, saw a 64

per cent rise in pre-tax profits in 1998,

up from £4 million to £6.6 million. The

results were Guardian's first full-year

the Government to introduce wider reg-

ulations soon that would force compa-nies to prove that they have so-called

The company said that it expected

figures since floating last March.

the talks failed on valuation. "It was the price, they wanted too much." Scania reacted angrily to Volvo's stated intention of retaining its interest. complaining that a large stake held by a major competitor would be bad for the business.

The failure of the Scania initiative will put pressure on Volvo to find an alternative partner. Steve Reitman, of Merrill Lynch, said: "If they don't do something, they become vulnerable themselves. Volvo has a very open shareholding

Guardian IT predicts more state regulation

Speculation is focusing on the possibility that Volvo will seek a deal with Renault over its US trucks business, Mack. Other potential targets could be Navistar, the former International Harvester business, which is capitalised at some

\$2.6 billion (£1.6 billion). Mr Johansson, said that Volvo had clearly declared its intention to participate actively in consolidation within the commercial vehicle industry. The decision to terminate discussions does not imply any changes in this objective, and

ecutive, said such regulation already ex-

The company's sales were £30 mil-

lion for the year, up 29 per cent from

£23 million, while earnings per share

rose 54 per cent from 5.9p to 9.1p. A fi-

nal dividend of lp will be paid on April

isted in the financial sector.

"business continuity" systems in place. Peter MacLean, Guardian IT's chief expear to 1.5p. The company, which is

we are now going to proceed with the work of strengthening Volvo's position. Scania shares fell 5 per cent.

to SKr202 (£15.50), on news that the talks had failed. Investor had indicated that a fair price for Scania was SKr250. Industry experts were puz-zled as to why Volvo failed to strike a deal as the Investor position was well known.

Volvo said that it would offer Scania management cooperation in technology and components without restricting com-

market leader in the UK, said it would

continue to expand in France. Germa-

ny and South Africa through organic

growth and acquisitions. Shares in

Guardian slipped 2½p to 572½p.

#### Warnings sound at Jarvis **Porter**

By Paul Armstrong

SHARES in Jarvis Porter, the packaging group, fell almost 10 per cent to 93%p yesterday after the company said poor trading conditions would restrict pre-tax profit to E5 million in the year to February 28. This compares with £14 mil-

lion in the previous year.

Jarvis also gave warning that more than 300 jobs would be lost at its production plants as the result of a strategic review. The company said it was yet to decide which plants would shut.

The programme is expected to cost about £7.5 million, most of which will be incurred in the coming year. Jarvis said it was unable to quantify the restructuring provisions that would be provided for in the current year's accounts.

Jarvis said trading condi-tions had deteriorated further in the past three months, particularly in its international drinks and beverages division. for which it makes labels. The to continue into the next financial year.

It also said discussions were ongoing which may lead to a takeover bid for the company.

#### | Setback for PPL in phase II drug trials

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BY PAUL DURMAN

PPL Therapeuties is putting a brave face on indecisive resuits from a phase II trial of its cystic fibrosis treatment. Alpha-l-antitrypsin (AAT), derived from the milk of genetically modified sheep, failed to show any benefit on the

trial's primary measure - the time between treatment and the first serious lung infection. At a high dose, the drug appeared to reduce the number of infections by a quarter but, with data from only 96 patients, this result was not statistically signifi-

Ron James, PPL's chief executive, said the results were quite positive - in most respects as good as we could have expected from a trial of this size".

PPL is already talking to two large pharmaceutical groups, which will be asked to bear the E15 million to E20 million cost of a further trial on 900 patients. This is likely to AAT than the 250 mg per day that was most effective in the nhase II study.

Tempus, page 30

#### Investors to get £18.4m from UTV

By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

ULSTER TELEVISION, the ITV company, said yesterday that it is to hand more than E18 million back to shareholders and promised that there would be more to come.

Shareholders will receive a special 35p a share dividend accounting for a total of £18.4 mil-lion after UTV carried out what it called a "prudent as-sessment" of its future cash

Three years ago UTV hand-ed about £10 million back to shareholders after the company decided not to invest in the Irish Republic's TV3 channel. Further sales of its stake in

SES, the Astra television satellite system operator, should net a further £7 million, earmarked for return to share-

Desmond Smyth, managing director, said UTV's main priority was organic growth into the Irish Republic. He said: That doesn't require a lot of capital."

News of the special dividend saw UTV shares close at 220p. UTV reported pre-tax profits for 1998 of £12.5 million com-

pared with ES.3 million last

time. The final dividend will be

3.5p making 6.3p for the year.

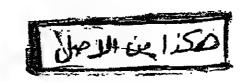
(SMOOTHUS TALKUS REPTILUS)



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## Buyback prospect sees Unilever shares soar

household goods group, was one of the best performers among the top 100 companies. climbing 42p, or 7.2 per cent, to 625 p amid hopes that it may be ready to spend up to £2 billion buying back its own

The group, whose brands range from Bird's Eye foods to Persil washing powder, has a £6 billion warchest with which to make acquisitions. It received almost £5 billion from the sale of its speciality chemicals business to ICI.

But the group has been una-ble to find the right deal. Last week, the shares came under pressure amid claims it was preparing to bid for HJ Heinz, the US food manufacturer.

Unilever's intentions may become clearer today when it unveils final results expected to show pre-tax profits 15 per cent higher at £2.8 billion and a near 25 per cent increase in the dividend to 10.5p a share. But the real boost to the share price will come if the group signals the go-ahead for a share buyback. Brokers Warburg Dillon Read and WestLB Panmure were both said to be buying Unilever ahead of the figures.

Share prices generally wiped out early falls to end the day with some useful gains, partly inspired by strong open-ing gains on Wall Street. The FTSE 100 index dipped below the 6,000 level in early trading before reversing the losses to close 38.7 up at 6,069.9. The FTSE 250 index added 7.6 at 5,180.7 with turnover reaching 915 million shares.

Rank Group was an early mover, rising 124p to 235p on re-ports that a consortium backed by venture capitalists was putting together an offer worth 3.1 billion, or 275p a share. In a separate move Anthony Stenham, a director, has bought 19,910 shares at 227p taking his holding to 40,800 shares.

The best performance of the day came from Orange with the price squeezed 68p higher at 940kp as 4.24 million shares changed hands.

British Airways was another firm market, adding 1514p to 4571/2p reflecting the popularity of the part-privatisation of Air France. British Aerospace was also wanted ahead of results with the price adding 19p at 421p. Worries about the future of the ai-Yamamah oil-for-arms contract appear to be fading. There was a muted response

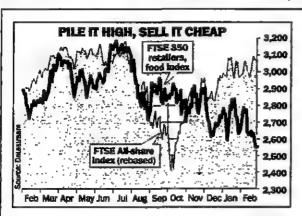


Nikki and Steve Connors, the husband and wife team who saw shares of Citron Press open at 521/2p on Ofex yesterday

following a visit by brokers to Williams's operations in Australia, with the price softening 2xp to 355xp. The visit high-lighted a significant change in strategy by the group that is likely to be repeated at its operations worldwide. WestLB Panmure was one of the brokers present and appears to have been impressed. It rates the shares a "buy".

Brokers expressed scenticism about weekend reports suggesting that Williams may have reopened merger talks with Tyco International of the US.

Laura Ashley ticked higher finishing 14p dearer at 194p after briefly touching 20%p. The story circulating in the Square Mile suggests Malayan United Industries is poised to bid for the outstanding 60



BACK in the old days when Sir Jack Cohen ran Tesco. high, sell 'em cheap". Noth-

ing much has changed. This week's price cuts inigaining market share and

undermining rivals.
It has already undermined their shares with Asda down 3p to 149p, J Sainsbury 74p off at 3584p, Somerfield 54p cheaper at 352½p. Safeway 1½p down to 271%p and Morrisons Supermarkets 2½p lighter at 319½p. Unfortunately, it also

left Tesco 21/2p easier at 173p. Brokers, who expressed concern about the prospect of a new price war towards the end of last week, appear now to be taking a more san-

Some say Tesco's cam-paign cannot be supported long term. Asda and Sainsbury are not expecting to make any further margin investment. Only Safeway

appears vuinerable. The OFT industry report is due soon and will probably be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

nishings group that it does not already own. Laura Ashley was quick to distance itself from the story, insisting that it had received no approaches from its biggest shareholder. During the past year, the price has virtually halved from a peak of 40p. IWP International respond-

ed to heavy buying of the shares by directors with a rise of 1215p to 14715p. A total of seven directors have between them picked up 3.8 million shares. It included one million shares picked up by Patrick Moran, chief executive, which stretched his holding to 4.2 million, or 5.3 per cent, and a fur ther one million bought by Richard Hayes. He now owns 1.25 million, or 1.6 per cent.

Medeva gained ¼p to 95p on the news of share purchases by one director. Peter Read has bought 5,000 shares at

Scottish Radio firmed 1%p to 594p as Lord Gordon of Strathblane raised £60,000 from the sale of 10,000 shares at 600p. He still holds 26,720 shares, or less than I per cent. Over on Ofex, it was the first

day of dealings for Citron Press, the publisher headed by husband and wife team Steve and Nikki Connors. The shares started life at 521/ap following a placing of 1.3 million shares valuing the company at El.5 million. Citron is a niche publisher with its own authors co-operative and an innovative book club that has already been endorsed by the likes of Martin Amis.

The absence of any fresh bid news left Greenalls nursing a fall of 8p to 372p. The speculators claim Whitbread, unmoved at 883%p. is poised to make an offer. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Bond pric-

es struggied to make headway in early trading and only came to life on the back of a futuresinspired rally. in the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt added

contracts completed. In the cash market, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 put on 26p at £148.97, while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 finished 10p bener at £107.17.

□ NEW YORK: US shares were led higher by a rally in blue chips. At midday the

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## Alliance Res. HR Owen...... Jarvis Porter... XCL Dow Jones industrial average was up 114.63 points to 9.454.58.

## Fair to Midlanding

AS ODD as it may sound, the bad-debt charge contained in HSBC's results was not the most worrying issue for shareholders. In fact, some Asia on HSBC's dividend growth. conservative banking analysts would almost have drawn comfort from the huge rises.

Of more concern to the market is HSBC's short-term outlook for some Asian countries. Suggestions by John Bond, group chairman, that further setbacks are possible in parts of the embattled region ensures that the stock re-mains immersed in the uncertainty deserving

of an entity lending money in Asia. Investors responded to yesterday's result and Mr Bond's update by slicing HSBC's prospective earnings multiple from 18.5 to 16.
This means the stock has traded the small premium it carried over the rest of the sector for a similar sized discount.

Asia on HSBC's dividend growth.

Mr Bond's admission that credit conditions

deteriorated in Hong Kong and Malaysia in the second half combined with uncertain signals from Europe, means the financial services company could be set for a rocky road in the next six months. However, HSBC's core operations are

sound, as shown by the 5.8 per cent rise in operating profit before provisions. Its strong capital position means it is also able to make opportunistic acquisitions, such as its purchase of a 70 per cent stake in Korea's Seoul Bank. The longer-term outlook is boosted further by plans to consolidate its complicated share structure and seek a New York listing. Buy for the long term.

There are also grounds to believe that this

Guardian IT GUARDIAN IT, the largest

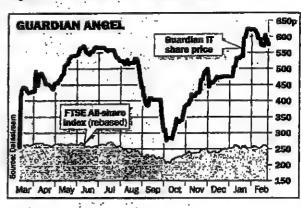
disaster-recovery business in the UK, is emerging as a seri-ous player in France, Germany and South America. It unsustainable in the short is a simple business: the company owns vast warehouses and trucks brimming with the latest IT equipment. Clients buy access to these warehouses and trucks in case of 

5 per cent of its clients suffer at least one disaster each year, mostly related to hardware failure, but also involving floods and other freak weather conditions. Guardian has healthy growth potential: it can sell additional services to its customers, win new contracts, and increase significantly its share of new mar-

The company will also ben-efit from any tightening of

threat to their IT systems has regulation: in the financial sector, companies already have to prove they have disas-

Guardian is a well-run business, but the fact that directs ter-recovery services in place. On the downside, Guardtors and senior management ian's 25 per cent margins look have decided to sell down their stakes now must surely say something about the comterm, given its £15 million investment plan for this year. There is also a fear that after pany's share price, which represents a breath-taking forward p/e multiple of 53. At 2000, many companies may begin to feel that that the best, a hold,



Ulster Television: THE old joke about Ulster Presbyterians keeping the Sabbath, and everything else they can get their hands on. comes to mind when contemplating the future of Uister

Television. With its 35p special dividend, the company is, of course, giving money back to shareholders rather than keeping it itself but the principle still holds. The directors do not believe in squandering

As a principle this is a difficult strategy to fault. Yet UTV is becoming a serial offender. three years that a wodge of money has been thrown back at investors and the company said yesterday that more is on the way after it sells its residual stake in SES, the Luxembourg satellite group.

Shareholders may wonder, however, whether there is a paralysis of imagination and will on the UTV board. Is the media really an area where there are no opportunities for meaningful investments for the future? Where indeed is the next SES investment spectacularly successful in percentage terms — coming from if all the spare cash is immediately returned to

shareholders? The licence for the UK's third channel will remain a considerable milch cow for years to come and UTV's expansion into the Irish Republic is eminently sensible but maybe a quick reading of the parable of the talents might offer some useful guid-

DOLLY the sheep is not riding to the rescue of the stricken biotechnology sector — not yet at least. A phase II trial by PPL Therapeutics, which helped to clone Dolly but which spends most of its time trying to make medicines

ance. Hold on for the special

from sheep milk, delivered re-

Cystic fibrosis patients who inhaled a 250 mg dose of the protein AAT suffered 25 per cent fewer lung infections, and the number of severe infections dropped by half. However, the 96-patient trial was too small to confirm the significance of this result and PPL's drug appeared completely ineffective against the trial's primary endpoint - a measure chosen to generare lots of data.

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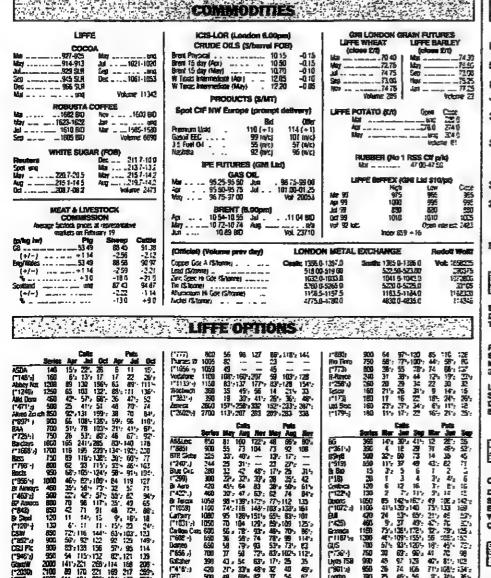
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AAT still looks a long way from being a "must-have" for any potential marketing part-ner. PPL has still to identify the optimal dose, and estab-lishing claims based on improving patients' lungs will be costly and time-consum-

PPL is admired for its science and at 79kp looks cheap after recently raising £20 million. But short-term progress



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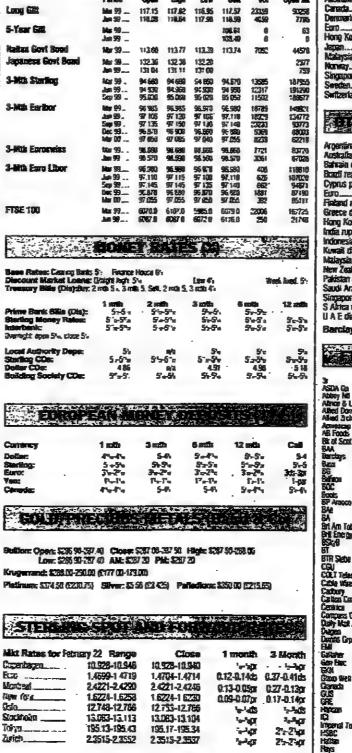
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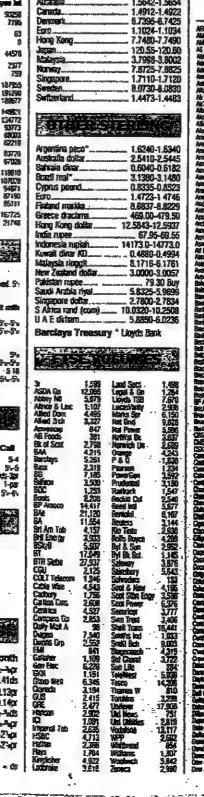
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PERSONAL PROPERTY.



## Euroland must shoulder the blame for US deficit

A protectionist

response trom America

would be

largely justified

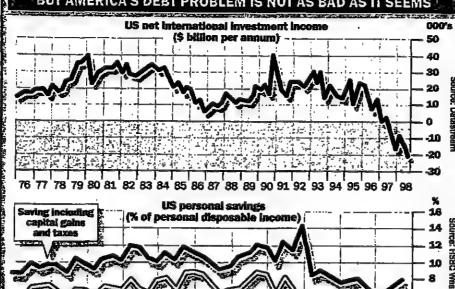
hree weeks ago I wrote in this column that the biggest economic story of 1999 likely to be the growing international pressure on Europe to do its part in sustaining global growth and counteracting the unacceptable imbalances of world trade. BUT I had no idea at the time how quickly this pre-diction would be realised. The attacks on the euroland delegation at Saturday's meeting of the G7 finance ministers and central bankers in Berlin were certainly the most acrimonious since the public dressing-down delivered exactly a year ago in London to Hikaru Matsunaga the luckless temporary boss of the Japanese Ministry of Fi-

Not content with completely removing from the agenda any mention of the currency target zones enthusiastically promoted by the meeting's German chairman, Oskar Lafontaine, the other delegations objected and the excessive representation Programmed by euroland at what was supposed to be a small and informal gathering. Why, it was asked, should German, French and Italian central bankers be invited, now that they had been demoted to the status of branch managers at the ECB? And why should a place be reserved for Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the Brussels Monetary Affairs Commissioner, given that four members of the European Council of Ministers were already in the room? A diplomatic compromise was agreed on representa-tion — M de Silguy "voluntarily" withdrew from the meeting, under pressure from commitments in Brussels, while the euroland central bankers were invited to attend in their personal capacities, with the understanding that the same courtesy inght not necessarily be extended to their successors at the Banque de France, the Banca d'Italia and even the once-

nighty Bundesbank. The tiff over representation was, of course, just a storm in a teacup, but it did draw attention to two bigger issues. One was the paradioxical fact that countries which join the eurozone are likely to lose international influence, rather than gain it. The other was that all of the G7 Governments are finally waking up to the need for a U-turn towards an explicit policy of macroeconomic demand expansion in Europe, comparable to the U-turns that occurred in August 1982 in America, in September 1992 in Britain and which may be occurring in Ja-

pan just about now. The question about internaional influence can be examrhed quite briefly. Obviously national central bankers in euroland are being emasculated by EMU, but what is less widely

**WORLD TRADE IMBALANCES ARE UNSUSTAINABLE** (% of GDP) \*BUT AMERICA'S DEBT PROBLEM IS NOT AS BAD AS IT SEEMS?



recognised is that national finance ministers will gradually suffer the same fate. On Saturday the euroland finance ministers were tangibly weakened at the G7 meeting by the confu-sion about ECB representation. Indeed, one version of the "who sits round the table" row was that Herr Lafontaine himself suggested the exclusion of German, French and Italian central bankers; the last thing he

wanted was a meeting packed

62

with allies of Wim Duisenberg. With each successive international meeting it will become clearer that the voices of Euroland's national politicians, far from being amplified by the creation of the euro, will be diminished, at least on economic issues. Instead of enjoying an international rank somewhere between the Japanese and Canadian Prime Ministers, euroland leaders will have to get used to the sort of international status now accorded the Governors of California or Texas. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown please

Turning now to the substantive economic issue of Satur-day's G7 meeting, I make no apology for reproducing the top chart above for the second. time this month. The chart shows simply that the rapidly growing US trade deficit, gener-ally recognised as the Achilles' heel of the miraculously strong

American economy; can instead be diagnosed as a Europeari problem.

America's current account deficit, forecast by the OECD this year at \$270 billion, is likely to be matched almost exactly by surpluses of \$140 billion each in euroland and Japan.

hese surpluses are dangerous symptoms of deflationary malignancies in both Europe and Japan. What makes the European surplus even more disquicting and internationally unacceptable than the Japanese one is that it has been growing rapidly over the past decade, directly reflecting the beggar-my-neighbour policies of protectionism and mass unemployment pursued by the European governments and central banks. As recently as 1993, for example, euroland's current account surplus was only \$20 billion, while Japan's surplus was \$132 billion and America's deficit was a very manageable

\$51 billion. In the five years since then, the Japanese surplus has actually diminished somewhat, while the American and European imbalances have each increased by well over \$100 billion. The arithmetical implication is that almost all the deterioration of the US trade deficit can be attributed to the defla-

tionary and mercantilist policies pursued by continental Europeans. This was, in essence, the argument made at Saturday's G7 meeting by Robert Rubin, the Treasury Secretary, with strong reinforcement from the Federal Reserve's Alan Greenspan.

America is not, of course,

seeking to eliminate its trade deficit completely. US trade deficits of \$100 billion or so could be sustained for years or even decades because America's position as an international investor was (and still is) much stronger than many economists believed. Although persistent trade deficits since the mid-1980s had turned America. from the world's leading creditor nation into an international debtor to the time of about \$1 trillion by 1996, America was really much richer than the crude figures suggested. Its foreign holdings were largely in the form of highly profitable equities and direct investments, while foreign investment in the US was mainly in the form of low-yielding bank deposits and short-term Treasury bonds. A better measure of America's international investment position, represented by my middle chart, shows that the US was still receiving a net income from its overseas investments in 1996, even when it was ap-

parently a foreign debtor to the

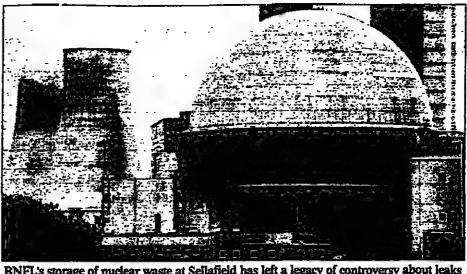
however, America's net foreign income did finally move into the red and is now incurring a servicing cost of about \$30 billion a year. This is still modest in comparison with an apparent foreign debt of more than \$1.5 trillion. But it does indicate the long-term costs that Ameri-ca would suffer if it continued to act as the world's importer of first and last resort. From this point of view, the growing pressure in America to reduce the trade deficits is both politically understandable and economically justified.

To the American accusation that European deflation and mass unemployment is at the heart of the US trade problem, the Europeans had an unconvincing retort in Berlin. Americans, they argued, were intoxicated by an unsustainable pull market on Wall Street and were consuming too much. If only Americans started to save a bit more, the US trade deficit would diminish even without any reflation-

ary action in Europe. This argument is factually inaccurate. American savings are not as deficient, nor as dependent on the stock market, as is generally supposed. In fact, OECD figures suggest that Americans' savings are higher, in relation to incomes, than savings in any other country, in-cluding Germany and France. And they would remain higher even if stock markets fell by 40

ne of the main reasons why US savings appear so low is the anomalous treatment of taxes and capital gains. Capital gains are not counted as personal income, even when they are realised and the money is either spent or reinvested. But the taxes paid on realised capital gains are subtracted from personal income and saving. The paradoxical result is that when Americans act prudently and sell shares into a rising stock market, reinvesting the pro-ceeds in bank deposits or bonds, the personal saving rate actually declines. The bottom chart, adapted from work done by Douglas Lee, of HSBC in Washington, shows that the US saving rate was not much lower in 1998 than it was a decade earlier if capital gains and taxes were treated in a consist-

ent way But there is a more serious objection than factual inaccuracy to Europe's attempt to blame American self-indulgence for the transatlantic trade imbalance. The Europeans know full well that a sudden cutback in American consumption would inflict disaster on a euroland economy threatened by global deflation. Instead of deflecting blame, European politicians and central bankers must recognise that the responsibility for dealing with world economic imbalances now lies largely in their hands. If Europe continues to ignore the destabilising international effects of its pre-Keynesian policies of mass unemployment, it should prepare for a protectionist response from America - a protectionist backlash that would be largely



BNFL's storage of nuclear waste at Sellafield has left a legacy of controversy about leaks

## Selling off BNFL promises to be a messy business

BNFL is used to headlines. The Selfafield nucleur had and power generating group has been the focus of dozens of populist anti-nuclear campaigns. mostly recently by the German Government, BNFL will soon hit the headlines for a different reason. New Labour is thinking of

privatising it. The Treasury wants the cash, upwards of El billion for a 49 per cent stake or more than double that for the lot. The company wants funds to realise its ambition to become the world's leading nu-

clear services organisation. Five months ago, Peter Man-delson asked KPMG to advise. A team led by Dame Sheila Masters made a supposedly keen interim report at Christmas to Stephen Byers, his successor at the Department of Trade and Industry. The final version is due any

In between, Germany decided to cancel £1.2 billion in fuel reprocessing contracts immediately, with no compensation. It put the whole thing on hold after learning that it was bound to continue full pay-ment until 2004, and that 500 tons of unprocessed, highly radioactive waste would be sent straight back to a delighted Germany in sealed trains.

BNFL's third-biggest contract should be safe for a few years, but the episode reminded potential investors that almost everything the company does is politically charged. Usually, it is financially complex too.

Even nuclear weapons can be made an issue, although there is no legitimate market for plutonium. One of BNFL's reactors still supplies vital tritium gas to maintain nuclear warthcads in firing condition. The German Government

still aims to end reprocessing after the early take-or-pay contracts are exhausted. This would add to pressure elsewhere to end reprocessing in favour of storing spent fuel. The £2 billion Thorp project,

BNFL's newest reprocessing plant, was built to service a family of UK pressurised water reactors, of which only one was built. It relies on contracts to reprocess Japanese waste.

BNFL also wants to sell mixed oxide fuel, using unwanted plutonium. Critics claim that the £300 million project cannot compete with fuel from mined uranium at today's low prices. There is little profit there either.

Nuclear power generates energy without pollution but is in global decline because it produces the filthiest, most unmanageable waste. BNFL

The nuclear group could be privatised,

writes Graham

Searieant

wants to make the best of this by diversifying beyond generating and reprocessing into clean-up, storage and repair. A relatively new executive team under John Taylor, formerly of Exxon, aims to create the world leader in a \$35-billion-a-year nuclear services business by consolidating the shrinking industry. More cash will be needed.

The DTI backed a strategic move last year to buy the once-mighty Westinghouse nuclear business in America for £740 million. All but £150 million was in future contract liabilities. The key reclamation business, like clean-up contracts in America and at Chernobyl, are in various partnerships with Morrison Knudsen, a US contractor which must lead Federal contracts.

roup pre-tax profits are stationary at about £200 million, an eighth of revenue, although the changing mix is still a state secret. Providing for future liabilities, some still funded by the Government, would also require amazing glasnost if BNFL were floated.

Floration would surely be aimed at institutions that backed previous nuclear issues, including British Energy, rather than the public. But any investors earning profits from nuclear waste, or even clean-ups, will face flak.

Safe storage of high-level waste is a possible growth industry, in which BNFL is experienced. But storage at Sellafield has also left a legacy of complaints about radioactive tus written by City lawyers.

The group's first-generation Magnoxnuclear stations were hived off from British Energy as a prerequisite for its privatisation, partly because of their costly fuel reprocessing contracts with BNFL. Most were close to the end of their intended lives and faced costly decom-

missioning Under BNFL management, concerted efforts have extended the safe working lives of the nine remaining Magnox stations. Mr Taylor also aims to cut annual operating costs by a quarter in four years, saving £200 million across the group. Magnox stations, which pro-

duce 8 per cent of UK electricity, are vulnerable to the regulator's plan to end the profitable power pool. Westinghouse comes with a

new-generation design of light water reactor, the AP 600. But the market has dried up since the Chernobyl explosion and falls in oil and gas prices, in spite of commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

BNFL believes that Westing house will have a strong continuing business in trying to extend the lives of existing nuclear power plants. This has become nuclear operators' strategy round the world.

Objections to swelling nuclear waste are so strong, however, that a sustained return to nuclear power relies on efforts to accelerate the decay of radioactivity. Rival European and US projects are at an early stage.

Both rely on transmuting isotopes that will emit radioactivity for long periods into closely related isotopes with short halflives that will become safe fast. The idea is to bombard the radioactive matter from a particle accelerator. No practical economic plant

is likely to be developed for 20 years. Some scientific authorities still contend that the process is theoretically impossible. The argument would make interesting reading in a prospec-

## Hands on

GUY HANDS, head of Nomura's and so on. He was asked to do a seprincipal finance group and the least popular man at Warburg Dillon Read, has given a rare interview, to Property Week. This was before the sale of William Hill, and Hands is by now well out of the way of the row and on a family holiday in Barbados. Hands recalled an earlier example

of finding value where others had overlooked it. Before going to Oxford be worked as a semi-professional pho-lographer, specialising in weddings



Guy Hands: once a snapper-up of unconsidered trifles

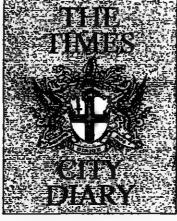
ries of portraits for a local school. The lab took the film and ruined it, the pictures coming out grainy and unusea-ble. Hands refused to pay for the work but took the photos anyway.

Realising that parents were likely to be less discriminating, he then approached them direct and offered the pictures of their offspring. Every parent bought them.

NOW that, as I predicted, Graham Wallace has been installed as chief executive of Cable & Wireless, what of the only other serious internal can-didate? Robert Lerwill, finance director, has only been there two years, having joined from WPP Group after ten years at Arthur Andersen. There are strong suggestions within CSW that he may decide to move on and make the difficult transition from finance man to chief executive elsewhere. With his track record he would seem the ideal man to plug one of the many gaps at the top of quoted companies. We shall see.

#### Mail shot

IS THIS creepy, or what? There is a programme you can install in your email system called MIMESweeper which will filter out messages whose and it certainly did not. One can only come in," says my informant.



content is objectionable. It is in use at a big City law firm.

A colleague sent a perfectly harmless e-mail there recently. He received by return the information that the software had analysed the content of his message against a thesau-rus of inadmissible words "and the e-

mail has passed the test". However, "it is likely that the admissibility criteria will be tightened in the future." Surprised, he copied this message and sent it back to his original contact there. By return he received no less than four e-mails la-belled "MESSAGE REJECTED". The contents had been analysed and failed the test.

He rang the law firm's IT people to ask what words they objected to. The message contained a swear word, he was told. Except that I have seen it assume the firm does not want its employees to know their messages are being scrutinised. Are yours?

THE national hysteria over money laundering has reached a new low. As I have mentioned, you are already required to provide proof of identity f you take out an insurance policy. Now a reader reports how she went into a small local post office with exactly £2 in small change, asking to exchange this for pound coins. She was told that, because of fears that she might be trying to launder the illgotten gains of some illicit transac-tion, she would have to pay the mon-

ey into a Giro account. For two quid? Certainly. She departed instead with a book of stamps.

#### Liffe story

DOWN at Liffe, the financial futures exchange, they are used to coping with the media, so there was no surprise when someone purporting to work for Channel 4 approached with a request for an interview with a trader.

Liffe was, after all, already dealing with one independent TV company making a series of six programmes about the City for the channel. "A call came in from another independent company saying Channel 4 was making an educational guide for young people on the City, and could they

Liffe duly fielded a member to give an interview. The first indication all was not well was when the interviewer arrived in an army jacket and wearing a huge medallion.

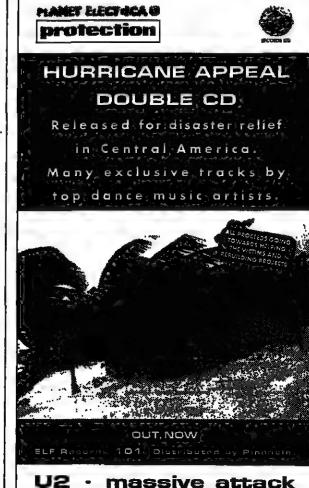
All he was interested in was ques-tions about selling drugs and fist fights on the trading floor. The "interviewer", I think you will find, was from The Eleven O'Clock Show, a satirical programme watched mainly by drunken students. Liffe, quite rightly, complained to Channel 4. The same film crew has also been

spotted lurking around the Royal Exchange. You have been warned. MARTIN WALLER

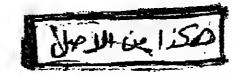
city.diary@the-times.co.uk



capitalist. They'd buy anything"



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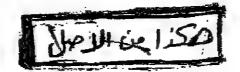
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## You've got millennial US male

Office Space, a timely satire on corporate America, is a cartoon triumph with real people, Giles Whittell writes

case translation is needed, this means work is a drag, boring and generally not worth doing, which even in the era of stock options and casual Fridays is not a bad premise for a movie. The phrase appears on every piece of publicity for Office Space, one of the weekend's big releases in America, and not only because working types tend to agree with it. "Sucks" is also a mantra for a market that Twentieth Century Fox would hate to miss with this film: eight million fans of Beavis arid Butt-head, the animated teatage nihilists for whom everything sucks.

Office Space is Mike Judge's debut as a live-action director. He is a mild-mannered engineer who made parts for US Navy fighters before hitting paydirt five years ago with the odious B & B, a pair of cartoon cretins who popularised the expression "Duh" and amuse themselves by blowing up cats with firecrackers. When Beavis and Butt-head were launched, Time magazine accurately noted that they "do nothing, absorb nothing and stand for even less", which is exactly why the MTV genera-

tion adores them.
Since then Judge has not put
a foot wrong, at least in business terms. His first cartoon feature, Beavis and Butt-head America, took a tidy \$63 million in America alone. He has since produced a second television cartoon series, the King of the Hill. The question in Hollywood this weekend was: can he do real movies too? The answer is yes. The critics are divided, but those who wrote off Office Space as only "moderately effective" (The New York Times) or having "the feel of a sitcom pilot" (National Public Radio) have clearly not spent long in a velour-padded corporate cubicle.

The script is not consistently brilliant and the look of the film never rises above that of decent television, but its central trick is inspired. In fact, there are moments in these deceptively simple 90 minutes when — someone had to say it — one feels in the presence of the Dickens of light 1990s so-cial cinema. Office Space starts in a traffic jam, the defining milieu of booming Clintonian America. Why didn't any-one think of this before? In a

Richard Cork's Visual Arts column will now appear on Wednesdays

sense they did. Falling Down



started in a traffic jam and went on to be one of Michael Douglas's better films, but it wasn't funny. Judge's traffic jam, on the oth-

er hand, is excruciatingly funny, and it comes as no surprise to learn that he works hard to make this sort of comedy seem easy. Asked if he slaved over the visual gags in Beavis and Butt-head, he once replied by quoting Michael Palin: "You can't put a guy in a Viking out-fit and hit him with a chicken without careful preparation."

The traffic jam happens to be in Texas, where Judge lives, but it could be anywhere. Likewise the giant computer firm where Peter Gibbons, played by Ron Livingston, is first seen wasting his life in a dead-end data-entry job enlivened only by glimpses of Jennifer Aniston in a themed coffee shop

across the parking lot.

Judge allows himself one flight of fancy. He sends the benighted Gibbons to a hypnotherapist who keels over from a heart attack after fulling him into a state of blissful fearlessness. Gibbons is suddenly a man in flip-flops, smiling sleepily instead of clinging to his sanity. He goes to work when he wants, which isn't

Then, even as his two best friends get "downsized", he is recognised by a pair of menaeing consultants as "upper mangement material".
This is the trick, and the

shock is that it's perfectly believable. It reveals everything Willy Loman never quite grasped about human nature and the power of cojones. After one spectacular non-appearance at work, the friends ask Gibbons what he was up to. He replies: "I did absolutely nothing, and it was every-thing I thought it would be." Admirers of Beavis and Butthead will know that the joy of doing nothing, at least for a particular type of early male adolescent, is Judge's grand

bere are also quieter echoes of the B & B mentality in Office Space. Early on, Gibbons asks his engagingly red-necked neighbour what he would do with a million dollars. The reply comes after a solemn pause: "I tell you what I'd do, Peter. Two chicks at the same time." Later there are panicked forecasts of "asspounding in a federal penitentiary (critics have seen a homoerotic subtext to Beavis's relationship with Butt-head), and a hated fax machine is pulverised with a baseball bat (the whole B & B series grew out of a short, violent film called Frog Baseball).

Office Space loses traction as its few plot strands are resolved, but as a timely depicwaitress, played by Aniston. neo-Luddite it works perfectly. cute, but this is not her long- "still just a hairstyle". It has one who ever had a job.



Jennifer Aniston and Ron Livingston in Mike Judge's Office Space, a film with a large and grown-up potential audience in everyone who ever had a job

In casting terms its discovery is Livingston, seen before only in Swingers. He finds the difference between loser and subversive in the slightest of eyebrow-twitches, and is destined for the big time after this.

He is supported by some su-perb cameos, but Aniston's is not one of them. She looks

awaited breakout role. Her ho-hum performances in She's The One, Picture Perfect and The Object of my Affection showed that stardom within Friends and without are very different things, and in last week's Rolling Stone magazine she admitted fearing that Office Space may leave her as

done just that, but with two consolations: she is much less embarassing to watch than Elizabeth Hurley, currently appearing in America as a brainless television reporter in Disney's My Favorite Martian. And, unlike that film, Office Space has a large and grown-up potential audience in every-

US WEEKEND BOX OFFICE TAKINGS \$6.7m/\$11.2m ...\$6.1m/\$9.2m \$5.8m/\$46.7m

First amount is estimated weekend takings, Feb 19-21. Second amount is total takings to Feb 16. Figure in brackets indicates last week's position



and performer that you are likely to see in many a year"

## Protest for all seasons

Protest singer, lesbian icon, indie entrepreneur, the new Alanis, righteous babe; forget everything you ever heard about Ani DiFranco. For when she walks on to a stage, all you need to know is that she is the most brilliant musician and performer you are likely to see

in many a year of gig-going.
On the first of two nights at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, she played a superb set of songs with a vivacious energy that was utterly captivating. Her characterful three-piece band of keyboard, bass and drums were involved with the performance on every level, and played a key part early on in bringing to life the punchy, folk-funk arrangements of Virtue and Jukebox from DiFranco's current album, Up Up Up Naturally, though, it was Di-Franco who led the way, playing a variety of acoustic gui-tars with either sensuous delicacy or a ferocious attack, and delivering long stretches of po-etic verse with any technique that came to hand, from the gorgeous folk melody of Adam and Eve to tongue-twisting stretches of scat and rap on Two Little Girls and Pulse.

Her bright, cheerful manner and a new, girl-next-door look — natural-coloured hair gathered into a simple ponytail - belied her outsider persona and the strength of her

commitment to what she does. A natural communicator, she enjoyed an easy rapport with the adoring crowd, while conveying sweeping extremes of

The lightness of touch in Angry Anymore, in which she sympathetically addressed "the spectre of my parents", was immediately followed by a new song about terrorist attacks on abortion clinics in her home town of Buffalo and elsewhere that evoked a chilling sense of personal pain. "We're digging up all the graves/And we're spitting on the past," she sang on Fuel, another lyric with a savage bite.

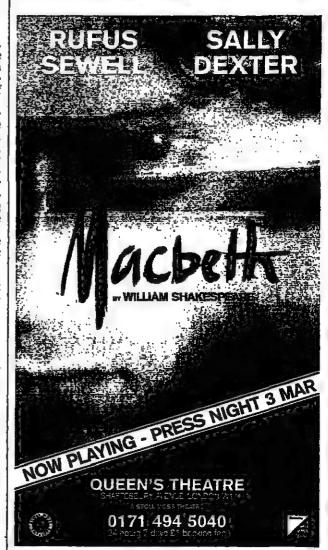
As a personal statement. this show was as strong as it gets. As a musical performance it was truly exceptional.

DAVID SINCLAIR

full-on, barefaced emoting traced back, via those Temptations, all the way to the impassioned soul-stirring of Jackie

The show gathered momenturn in the best tradition, and as a measure of the foursome's confidence, they saved both of their recent Top Five British hits. These Are The Times and the more street-smart How Deep is Your Love, for the encore. By then, the air had cleared and the collective term-

PAUL SEXTON



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SOUL GROUPS that could move an audience to tears were always a valuable commodity, and have become even more collectable in a musical milieu filled with ersatz emotion. Within half an hour of Dru Hill taking the stage on Friday night, dozens of their fans were leaving the hall with moist eyes. Sadly, one of the most bankable of contemporary R&B combos had nothing to do with it.

Introduced by some empty headed, bombastic cheerleading, the quartet from Baltimore had made a slick enough start, gyrating enthusiastically and harmonising sweetly in front of an imposing set. In threads of silver satin, they looked and sounded quite the part of a Temptations for the late 1990s, especially with the early delivery of their first American hit Tell Me.

But then some halfwit in the crowd decided that the party might swing a little better with the introduction of what seemed to be tear gas, causing a sizeable part of the Acade my's rear section to be temporarily vacated. If the group had caught sight of the exo-dus, it might have shaken the swagger from their stride. Thankfully, this asinine

#### Tears or cheers



ing, they climbed several rungs of the ladder simply by turning up, and doing so with good production values and a real, live band earned them further laudos. While Dru Hill's second album, last year's Enter the

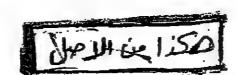
prank did not spoil what became a more than passable re-Dru, restated their pitch as purveyors of the highly-strung ballad a la Boyz II Men, the added visuals helped to eminforcement of Dru Hill's recently-won British acclaim. Given the mercurial nature of many soul practitioners when it comes to international tourphasise that lineage. Their

perature duly risen.

PREVIEWS FROM SATURDAY 6 MARCH. OPENING MONDAY 15 MARCH

by William Shakespeare

Royal National Theatre. Box Office 0171-452-3000 www.nt-online.org



The man from Countdown

#### RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment complied by Marit Hargie

#### LONDON

NIKOLAI DEMIDENKO: The Pussian-born pusnist, much admired for his elegant yet dramatic playing, relises the curtain on a season of virtuoso recitals here. In this concert his talent can be sampled in Beethovern's Pathetique Sonata Inflowed by a selection of stowpheces by Lazz. Barbican (0171-638 8991), Tonight, 7.30pm. (2)

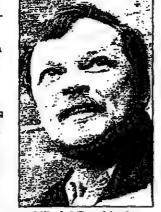
GOODNIGHT CHILDREN EVERY-WHENE: Richard Nelson's tescinating study of a family's expectations after separation in the Second World Wer. Pit (0171-638 8891). Opens tonight.

THE GREEN SNAKE: Mask Studio's interpretation of Goethe's fairy tele The Green Snake and the Beauthulth, done with puppets and, of course, masks. course, mesks. Riverside Studios (0181-237 1111). Previews from tonight, 7.45pm. (2)

#### ELSEWHERE

BASINGSTOKE: Fresh from his re-cent sabbetical Yakov Krezberg re-sumes his position at the helm of the Bournemouth Symphony Orches-tra. Two contrasting works are on offer Mozart's Fourth Volkin Concerto and Mahafer Sith Strephony. With and Mahier's Fifth Symphony. With Pamela Frank as violin solosa in the

GLASGOW: Never fearful of breaking musical conventions the acclaimed Kronos Quartet faunches a series of exciting concerts here. A character-istically diverse programme takes in gypsy music, a Philip Glass premiere and Schnittke's Second Quartet. Royal Concert Half (0141-287 5511), Tonight, 7.30pm, (2)



performs at the Barbican

LEEDS: Did Veldman uses an original scenario by Christopher Geble to choreograph Northern Bellet Theatire's new production of Carmen. Set to Bizet's popular score, the bellet is directed by Paincia Doyle with set and costumes by Laz Brotherston and lighting by Mark Henderson. Henderson. Grand Thestre (0113-222 6222). Tonight, 7.30pm. [5]

MANCHESTER: John Retallack's excellent version of Melvin Burgeas's novel, Junit, about kids and little drugs. Opening date in lour of this oward-winning show. Forum Theater. Civic Centre, Wythenshawe (0:161-225 7110). Opens tonight, 7,30pm.

#### NEW WEST END SHOWS

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SHOCKHEADED PETER: The Scissormen it back wonderfully sinister show by the Cultural Industry team with the Tiger Lifes and Marty Language in Manager and Marty Jacques's miseus acreech. Lyric (0181-741 8701/2311).

BAREFACED CHIC: Featmeting Auta play here for a month belone setting off on their latest resional lour. This time Clarke Peters directs. Theatre Royal, Haymarket (0171-830 8800). [5]

COPENHAGEN: Heisenberg calls on Niels Bohr in wartime Denmark, Michael Frayn's anjoyobly Intelligent play transfers to the West End. Michael Blakemore Grects. Michael Blakemore directs. Duchese (0171-494 5075).

CI SPLASH HATCH ON THE E GOING DOWN: Kis Corthron's play about a pregnancy in Harlem. Dommar Warehouse (0171-369 1732). (2) ☐ THE NUALAS: Irish all-girl satirical

ainging tric bring harmony, hiterity and a sharp look at humanity. Drift Hell (0171-637 8270).

☐ DEPENDING THE CAVENAN: Mark Little makes his West End debut in Rob Backer's new comedy, tracing the origina of the man/woman difference back to the caves, Apollo (0171-484 5070.)

☐ HOWARD CRABTREE'S WHEN PIGS FLY: Off-Broadway his comedy about putting on a musical results: emphasia of lavish costumes and emphisse on exert community official performers.

Arts Theatre (0171-836 3334).

☐ HOWIE THE ROOKIE: Mark O'Rowe's account of Dublin's victous underworld fouds, Mike Bradwell directs Ardan Kelly and Karl Shields. Bush (0181-743 3398).

☐ LE CID: After ten years Declar Donnellen again directs a line pro-duction of Cornelle's 1637 classic. Riverside Studios (0181-237 1111). THE RICT: Co-production with Kneekigh Theatre of Comwall, Nick Darke's play is set at the turn of the caracy where the army is brought in to qued the rivelry between two towns. Controlog (0171-452 3000). [5]

#### FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

AFFLICTION (15): Paul Schrader's brussing portrait of a frustrated cop in a small town. Nick Note and James Cobum put in powerful performances as father and son caucht in a cycle of

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18): Dovid I'ms Year's Durie (1s): Device Kene's buzzy comedy charts the mess six Camden Town mistis make of their fove tives among the junk stalls. With Kathy Burke, Jennier Erke, Dougtes Hershall, Dougray Scott, Catherine McCommeck and lan Harl.

HOLY MAN (PG): Eddie Murphy's naive spiratual guruy and Jeff Goldblum's sleezy TV executive team up to sell inferior products on a shopping channel. Director Stephen Herek flogs the sabre rather less keenly than his bug hame stars.

FOREIGN LAND (ICA): Strangely gripping underclass timiler about two young eales, set in Brazil and Lisbort. A trumph of quality over quantity. Directed by Walter Salles.

NEWS FROM THE GOOD LORD (ICA): Over-the-lop French comedy from Didler Le Pêcheur. Six weindo go looking for an Author, Some

**OPERA & BALLET** 

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG): Roberto Benigni's romantic Second World War lable strictes a discurbing comedy into the Holocaust. It's supremisty well acted, but she comedy about survival in a death carno is at best nausosting. VOLIS FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS

118): Neil Laitute's act-obersed compdy of manners tracks the anule this of six yuppie, thirtysomethings. With Naslaseja Kinski, Aaron Eckhar DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART (PG): Jenny Sesgrove and Anthony Edwards star in a quirky Valentine comedy where they outwit the destardly dentist, Charles Dance. .

HIDEOUS KINKY (15): Kate Winslei

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15): Successful career womant Angela Bassed falls for abunty Jamakan toy boy (Taye Diggs). Overlong, includent holiday brochure from director Kevin Rodney Sullivan.

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& some pects - apply 5.0.

THEATRES

## Whodunnit? Who cares?

ate one night a young social worker called Bryan is beaten up and left for dead. A passing driver, Peter, spots the semi-conscious man and takes him to hospital, where he recovers from the fractured skull and burst spleen he has sustained. Who committed the dastardly deed, and why?

This question interested me as I sat in Hampstead Theatre's newly configured, horseshoe-shaped stalls waiting for something exciting or unusual to happen, but it did not appear to be of any interest to the characters or to David Eldridge, who actually wrote Falling. With many plays one would agree that this was an entirely proper choice. It would certainly be demeaning to ask a dramatist to write a detective story or thriller when he or she has the ability to bring characters viv-

#### THEATRE

Falling Hampstead

idly to life or explore relationships in depth. If Shakespeare had brought Poirotcrantz and Marplestern on-stage to investigate Gertrude's complicity in the murder of her former husband, we would, let's agree, have a somewhat lesser play. But here the dramatic temperature is mostly so low that I caught myself wondering if Bryan, who turns out to have been in a near-suicidal gloom, might somehow have put his own boot into his own head — and, at times, wishing he would do so now.

Still. Hampstead Theatre was justified in slotting Eldridge into the season of new work that, as if to warn audiences not to expect titanic achievement, it has called A Small Drop of Ink. There were plenty of signs in Serving it Up, his 1996 play about racism and violence in East London, suggesting that he could develop into an arresting dramatist. Moreover, he is only in his mid-twenties and has ages to sharpen and enrich his work and, maybe, add a bit of tension to his plotting. As it was, I found it hard to care much about Mark Aiken's earnest but bland Bryan and his marital diffi-culties with Caroline Harker's



Nice people and workaday domestic realism: Lianne (Helen Gardiner) and Peter (Julian Kerridge) in David Eldridge's disappointing Falling

him by the end of his live

and a half. Whiteley has be-

come a cult hero to feckless

talk show.

pursed-lipped Jane: or about Julian Kerridge's affable Peter and his troubles with the nurse he met at Bryan's bedside. Helen Gardiner's Lianne, or about Jane's bond with the father from whom she was once alienated, Edward Peel's genial Derek; or about

Derek; or about Derek's fondness both for Peter and for his second wife. Chrissie Conerill's likeable Lynda.

There are secrets to be disclosed. both involving the death of children: but they too left me neither surprised nor stirred. My fault for not being sat-isfied with nice people and workaday domestic realism? That of the director, John Dove, for failing to inject more energy into the quarrels that eddy on and off the stage, like ripples in a tiny fishpond? Or of an author who has not looked boldly enough into the human heart and tripes? Whatever the truth, Bryan, Derek,

Jane, Lianne, Lynda and Peter could have jumped en masse off the British Telecom Tower, and I would have po-

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

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## More pain than passion

ing a mini-trend in Irish theatre. Conor McPherson restarted the old tradition with The Weir and now at the Peacock Dermot Bolger has entered the market with the tale of a contemporary urban haunting set in one of Dublin's less wholesome tower blocks. In Bolger's case, however, a desire to marry the goosebumps to a satire on something called modern Ireland has led to a

messy stumble. Liam Carney plays Jerome. not a 4th-century ascetic but an affluent 1990s Dublin adman who finds himself mysteriously bound to premises in the city's Ballymun flats after a visit from a poltergeist. Soon the lightbulbs are flashing on and off (woo!) and blood is leaking from wounds in the palms of his hands. Bolger appears to have no faith that an

#### The Passion of Jerome Dublin

audience will accept any meanings that are not predigested and served with a fanfare.

Lisa Harding's Clara offers Jerome's temptation and, as a token young person, also gets to mouth Bolger's excruciating faux-hip dialogue. Yuppies turn up as one of Bolger's prime targets, even though the species has not been sighted for nearly a decade. Bolger's grasp of the contemporary scene seems shaky, to say the least. And he clearly expects

no bener of his audience. "I don't want to miss ER on television." young Clara announces, for those who might have thought it was a radio

though all the playwright really knows about the state of the nation is that there are young tykes out there who lack moral fibre. Clearly they need a sharp lesson. And there is no better man for the job than the Lord Almighry Himself.
So the audience is visited

Credit should also go to with a fierce. flailing, oldhis star guest, Rory Bremnschool rant against the moder, whose steely professionalern world. David Byrne's proism salvaged the second half with the help of little more duction, set in a little chamber than a handful of well-worn of purple and green high-rise horrors, does not give much asimpersonations. At times sistance. Nevertheless, Johnny even Bremner seemed to be Murphy is particularly dreary wondering what on earth he as the true Dub caretaker. was doing sitting on a sola transplanted from the Richwhile almost everybody except ard and Judy studio. Des Nealon's cynical ghetto Having hosted precisely 12.764 editions of Countpriest and Claran Kenny's hornicidal thug seems to be scrambling to get a purchase down over the past decade

LUKE CLANCY

on the characters.

#### DEAR, oh dear. The first hour of this self-consciously tacky spectacle turned out to be even more depressing shade of land of daytime television. But it says something for the Whiteley bumbling charm of Richard Whiteley, host of Countdown and all-round man of the people, that we still warmed to



students everywhere. But it takes more than a few knowing references to "Post-Modem irony" and some fluffed punchlines to carry an entire evening of conversation.

Whiteley resembles a portly version of Alan Partridge, with the same dress sense but without, alas, Partridge's

Act of the Mark Lies & Set 30a.

0171 782 79/30

gift for the absurd. Matching him with the decidedly uncharismatic Mel and Sue of Channel 4's Late Lunch was hardly the ideal way to start proceedings. Watching the three of them limp through their desultory patter was as entertaining as watching bout between two blind, onearmed boxers.

The comedian Bill Bailey injected some genuine wit and fellow-comic Lynne Ferguson lobbed four-letter words into the air while we wondered if Whiteley's meandering, tongue-tied line of questioning was the real thing or merely an illusion.

Yes, it's nice to see another Everyman get his chance in the limelight, but it is becoming a worrying trend. Doubtless some cunning impresario is already preparing the next big hit — Vorderman: The Lady and Her Music.

CLIVE DAVIS

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**OPERA** 

**ARTS** 

**MUSIC** 

Maxwell Davies premiere

# Delius's glory in full flood

ften when an opera languishes unstaged for a century there are good rea-sons. The ultra-hard-hearted might argue that this is the case with Delius's second attempt at the genre, The Magic Fountain, which was completed in 1895, given its first performance in a BBC broadcast in 1977, and staged for the first time 18 months ago in Kiel. Scottish Opera's new production at the Theatre Royal on Saturday was the British stage premiere. It is not an unjustly neglected masterpiece, but the company was quite right to do it, did it for all the right reasons - chiefly because the mu-sic director Richard Armstrong is passionate about the music — and did so, very effec-tively, on a modest budget. Delius's operas are not near-

as bad as they are supposed to be: A Village Romeo is one of those scores for which the "minor masterpiece" might have been invented, and Fennimore and Gerda can be extremely effective on stage. And you have to admire the composer's heroic refusal to obey any operatic rules. Conventional structure and consideration for singers go out of the window; even length tells against them in that Fountain, like Fennimore, lasts for some 90 minutes - short commons for an evening out, slightly too long to form part of a double bill. Scottish Opera performs Fountain on its own and without breaks, a wise move since Delius declined to furnish anything so conven-tional as effective act-endings.

A paler

shade of

Whitelev



There is not too much action. A Spanish conquistador sails to Florida in search of the fountain of eternal youth; his ship is wrecked; the sole survivor (a bit tough on his grumpy crew), he is taken in by Wata-wa, a Seminole Indian maiden whose family has been wiped out by the Spaniards; the chief-tain points him in the direction of the fountain, and Watawa guides him into the Everglades with murder on her mind. The local wise man tells her that those who drink of the fountain unenlightened will die, but by now she realises that she loves her enemy and together they drink in a raptur-ous double-Liebestod.

It is wonderfully dotty: the most effective scene is the first. on shipboard, which is not exactly central to the action; there is an Indian war dance, utterly irrelevant but presuma-bly Delius thought it was time for a little variety; a female cho-rus of Spirits of the Fountain (lovely stuff) pops up just when you are longing for the

But the music itself is glorious, with Wagnerian leitmo-tifs nicely kid-out and tortu-ous Grieg-ian chromaticism. Armstrong's heartfelt conducting made the strongest possible case for the piece. The principal roles are cruelly demand-



ing: a Tristan and a Kundry would fill the bill, and while neither Stephen Allen nor Anne Mason aspires to such heights, they performed heroi-cally. Stafford Dean and Jonathan Veira filled the short-er roles of Chieftain and Wise

and the designer Ashley Mar-tin-Davis achieved miracles with bright, Hockneyesque colours revealed through camera-shutter apertures, echoing Delius's habit of translating the German word for "scene" (Bild) literally as "picture". A must for dedicated operatic trainspotters.

RODNEY MILNES



Man effectively.
Orchestra and chorus were on top form. Aidan Lang's production was tactful and sober,

#### Good PR for proportional representation So complex an arrangement Le Nozze would have been impossible leagues. Tim Mirfin caught

The equal opportunities ethos was operating in full force for a pair of performances of Figure at the Royal Academy of Music. The academy's students, mainly aged 24 to 27, joined forces with their colleagues at the Royal College of Music. There the rivalry ended.

Figaro was divided in half so that one set of mixed principals could sing the first two acts and a second team take over the last two. Rival pageboys alternated between the acts, a bit of a culture shock for the audience but scrupulously fair to the two mezzos.

without the guiding hands of highly experienced Mozartians. They were there in the shape of Colin Davis and director John Copley, who together have decades of Figuros behind them. Davis, relaxed and clearly enjoying himself, drew sinuous and rippling sound from the excellent student or-

Copley had to struggle against the awful sight-lines of the RAM's theatre. But his main mission, which was to give his aspirant professionals the best possible chance of



showing their paces, was car-

ried out with great skill.

The pace-senter and ultimate winner of the evening was an Australian baritone, Grant Doyle, who turned the Count (Acts III and IV) into a figure of real menace, poutingly sensuous. The aria was handled in bravura style and Doyle's general demeanour suggested that he carried more stage ex-

both ear and eye as Figaro (Acts I and II), although it is probably not his role, lying too high for comfort. When the voice settles it may be more bass than baritone. He has presence and clean delivery, so it is no surprise that Glyndebourne has engaged him as an understudy in Clemenza this summer. The second-half Figaro (Jonathan Gunthorpe) was

very much the servant, a Leporello in the making. The female roles were dominated by a massive intake of to be the Nilssons and Söderstroms of the future. Among them Camilla Tilling, with much heip from Davis, handled Susanna's Deh vieni with a melancholic delicacy that hinted she was as apprehensive as the Countess over love's delights. In that role inga Kalna (Acts III and IV) from Latvia suggested too that she could have a good future. Earlier Sarah Fox, one of Britain's few representatives on stage, made a feisty Susanna. Comedy looks to be her

JOHN HIGGINS

## From Prague with a spring

commented sceptically on the Philharmonia's Czech Connections series when it began in December. The chance to introduce people to some of the fine scores of Fibich. Novák or Suk (the latter was represented only by his Serenade for Strings) was passed up in favour of such warhorses as Dvorák's New World Symphony and Cello Concerto, which hardly need a special series to find an audience. The final concert in the series, on Saturday night, did at least include one unfamiliar score, Karel Husa's Music for Progue, which made for a neat gairing with Dvorák's Symhony No 8 in G.

Husa's work is the personal response of a native of Prague to the Soviet invasion of 1968. Among its iconic features are an old Hussite song of resistance jused also by Smetana in Md Vlast), the sound of

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IS THERE a case, Barry Mill-

ington writes, for banning for

life from the South Bank Cen-

tre a person who allows his

mobile phone to ring during

the final hushed offstage horn

solo of Britten's Serenade for

Tenor, Horn and Strings? Cer-

rainly the anger of several hun-

dred people in the Queen Eliza-

beth Hall on Friday night was

palpable, for the Serenade

church bells (signalling both distress and victory) and a bird call (piccolo solo) symbolising liberty. The Introduction and Fanfare promise a large-scale piece of considerable emotional power. The final Toccata and Chorale, and the preceding Interlude for percussion only, do not quite sustain



Slatkin: lilting rhythms and open air ebullience

Gonley and playing with more precision than before, contributed a finely honed backdrop.

crafted idiomatically by Sian

Rudolf Barshai's arrange-

Edwards on the rostrum.

Beethoven in revolutionary CONCERTS 

which the work ends have more of the battering ram than the triumph of idealism. In this context, Leonard Slatkin's account of the Adagio of Dvorák's Eighth took on extra dimensions. Where usually it seems little more than a pastoral idyll with a stormy interlude, here it could be read as a miniature tone poem of Czech nationalism. The surging phrases of the opening were immediately counteracted by

the dark tones of clarinets and

bassoons, while the skittering

this level of inspiration, and

the fortissimo unisons in

Melodramatically hushed

whispers and further outbursts later maintained the sense of an underlying programme. For the rest, Dvorák's lilting dance rhythms and open-air ebul-lience were faithfully captured by Slatkin and the Philharmonia, whose players made fine contributions both individually and collectively.

To the solo part of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, the Chinese-American Cho-Liang Lin brought expressive freedom and consummate technical control. He has the rare ability to make light of the most taxing virtuoso demands without in any way giving the impression of skimming the surface.

BARRY

#### string scales shortly after built MILLINGTON to a climax worthy of Sea changes

Thompson returned after the interval for another song

cycle, this time Memorials of Sleep by Anthony Powers. The cycle was written for Aldeburgh, so perhaps the echoes SIR Peter Maxwell Davies's A of the Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes in Lesbos and Aphrodite are no coincidence. Powers also shares with Britten an exquisite ear for sonority as well as a penchant for economy. The "little ripples of ecstatic liquid sound in Lawrence Durrell's verse Echoes, for example, are depicted by flutes and tinkling bells, though Powers is not afraid to let the voice be heard unaccompanied for many a phrase. This is a score at once sensuous and rarefied: a delight to the ear and an ideal companion piece to the Britten Serenade.

had been eloquently delivered ment for chamber orchestra of by the tenor Adrian Thomp-Shostakovich's Fourth String son and the horn player John Quartet also makes skilful use Thurgood. of colouring: the sinister tones The latter's solos were flawof bass clarinet and lower less, even those fearsome strings in the third movement mand-stopped harmonics that are followed by trumpets, have to sound wrong to be horns and drums, bringing right. Thompson's way with out the aggression latent in the the piece is robustly expresstring writing. Edwards and the ECO were as alert to these sive, an approach justified by imagery such as "chariot" and nuances as to the flexible "monstrous elephant". The phrasing of that hymn to mari-English Chamber Orchestra. tal intimacy: Wagner's Siegmuch rejuvenated under the leadership of Stephanie fried Idyll.

Reel of Seven Fishermen, written for the San Francisco Symphony last year, is like nothing else of his. The materials and the imagery are familiar enough - plainsong, Scottish fiddle music and folk song, the movement of the waves, a bird in flight, the overwhelming surge of the sea - and so is the source of inspiration in an Orcadian poem by George Mackay Brown. But the inner workings, at least in a score of this stature, have never been so transparent.

On its first performance in this country, with the composer conducting the BBC Philharmonic in the Bridgewater Hall, A Reel for Seven Fishermen was interesting above all for the development of the underlying Crux fidelis melody from its early exposure in the first movement to its transformation into a folk-like lament at the end of the third. The detail of the motivic working, woven into intricate textures and most delicately coloured by woodwind and percussion in the central movement, is both

intriguing and captivating. What is missing, or seemed to be, is the sense of purpose that unfailingly motivates even the longest and least accessible of

his scores. Perhaps it was a matter of performance. Certainly, the scoring, which is resourceful on a level new even to this most prolific of composers, requires much detailed attention from the listener and the performer, both of whom could well be distracted from the fundamental issues of the piece. The rest of the concert was

conducted by Vassily Si-naisky, who delivered a characteristically spontaneous interpretation of Shostakovich's Sixth Symphony, challenging the BBC Philharmonic to the extremes of expression between rumination and outright vulgarity and sweeping aside all inhibitions in the process. He also presided over a sensitive accompaniment to Kathryn Stott, who, deputising at a day's notice for Lars Vogt in Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto, offered a performance remarkable for its authentic colouring. its thoughtfulness and, though modestly proportioned, its distinctive profile.

GERALD LARNER

# Swedes, all probably hoping THE AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER Youve Got M@i LITTLE VOICE Valid at 35 UCI cinemas in the British Isles See any film showing between February 25 and March 25 THE SEATIMES Visit anytime (offer includes Fridays and weekends)

se oday The Times offers every reader a FREE ticket to see one of the latest exciting releases at any of UCI's 35 cinemas in Britain and Ireland. You can choose from You've Got Mêri, the new Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan love story; Little Voice which earned for Michael Caine Best Actor at the Golden Globe awards; and The Thin Red Line, Terrence Malick's epic about the Second World War starring John Travolta and Sean Penn. Among other films showing during the offer period are two that have been nominated for Oscars for Best Picture, Life is Beautiful and Central Station.

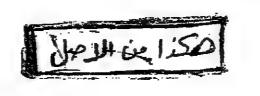
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NEW safeguards are to be in-

troduced for those doing business on the internet. The Gov-

ernment is expected next week to issue its long-awaited con-

sultation paper on the Elec-tronic Commerce Bill. The move should help small firms

to become more competitive.
It is estimated that a quarter

of business deals will soon be done online and the Govern-

ment is keen to create a legal

framework in which such a

gade can flourish. But until

the acceptance of e-commerce

by business and consumers.

The consultation paper will contain proposals to make all electronic documents, transac-

tions and signatures carry the

same weight in law as on paper. It will look at ways of authenti-

cating data and identities of peo-

ple on the Internet and ensur-

ing commercial confidentiality.

Peter Agar, deputy director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said;

Trust underpins any market

"If the Government gets the

and the online environment is

Bill right it will help to create

the framework within which

businesses and consumers can

trade with confidence on the In-

ternet, dramatically increasing

the amount of business on-

ine." Companies need to be

v concern over the security the Internet has hampered

Government's

e-commerce

ideas are due

By Henrietta Lake

macy of the person they are do-

ing business with online. They

need to know that no one will

tamper with commercially sen-

sitive data put on the Internet.

Firms also need to be able to

one to shout at if a payment does

not arrive," said Paul Baker, a

partner at KPMG, the account-

ants. But as interest in electron-

ic commerce grows so does the

Government's preoccupation with cyberfraud. One of the key

issues surrounding the Bill and delaying its implementation is

the issue of encryption - essen-

tially coding data. The right bal-

ance needs to be found between commercial confidentiality and

law enforcement. The Govern-

ment is worried that money

launderers, terrorists and the

like might take advantage of the

new securer environment and

wants access to snoop if it sus-

pects wrongdoing.

Despite the problems and

complexity surrounding e-com-

merce it is not an issue small

businesses can afford to ig-

nore and in fact it offers them

many opportunities.
"The Internet gives small and medium-sized firms a

way to compete competitively

with firms ten times bigger

than themselves, an opportuni-

ty to provide innovative prod-

ucts and the potential to grow

quickly," Roger Till, director of e centre UK, the industry

"On the Internet there is no

transfer money securely.

body that sets best-practice standards, said. It is also

Observers point out that

small firms may not have a

choice on installing an electron-

ic trading system if they wish to maintain contracts with larg-

er firms as many may soon in-

sist on doing all business on-

line. The Government is to

make 90 per cent of its procure-ment electronic by 2001. The cost savings involved in

e-trading make sense. Re-

search to be published tomor-row by KPMG will show that UK pic is wasting £100 billion

a year by not trading on-line.

Businesses would save 5 per

cent on their purchasing costs

by using electronic purchasing

techniques," Peter Loughlin, a consultant at KPMG, said.

The firm will be launching a

new service called The Solu-

tion Centre to show medium-

sized firms how to achieve these savings and implement

Software companies, such

as Pegasus, SAP and Sage, are

also busy designing easy-to-

use "off-the-shelf packages"

that will offer e-commerce facil-

ities at the click of a mouse.

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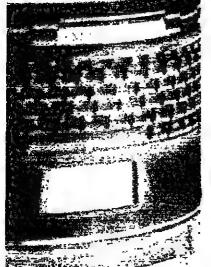
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ing procedures and the appropriare standard of skill and care. There was no obligation to obtain from the retained solicitor written confirmation signed by the borrower's solicitor that that solicitor

acted for both husband and wife or if not, that the wife had been advised to take separate independent

If the lender required its solicitors to take special and particular steps, including the requiring of such written confirmation, those sieps had to be set out in clear

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff banks, Mercantile Credit Co Ltd and Barclays Mercantile Business Finance Ltd from the dismissal by Mr Justice Carnwath on July 23. 1997 of their action against the defendant firm of solicitors. Speechly Bircham, alleging breach of retain-

er and negligence. There was no appeal against Mr Justice Carnwath's judgment in the consolidated action in which a

spect of 4 Woodchurch Drive. Bromley, against the first and sec-ond defendants, Mr Terence Wilham Fenwick and Mrs Amanda

Mr John Jarvis, QC and Mr Peter Cranfield for the banks; Mr lan Hughes, QC and Miss Beverly-Ann Rogers for the solicitors.

LORD JUSTICE CHADWICK

said that Mercantile Credit had prepared notes for solicitors instructed to deal with security work which, in relation to guarantees, required guarantors who were individuals to be asked to obtain independent legal artvice. In the present case the guarantor was the

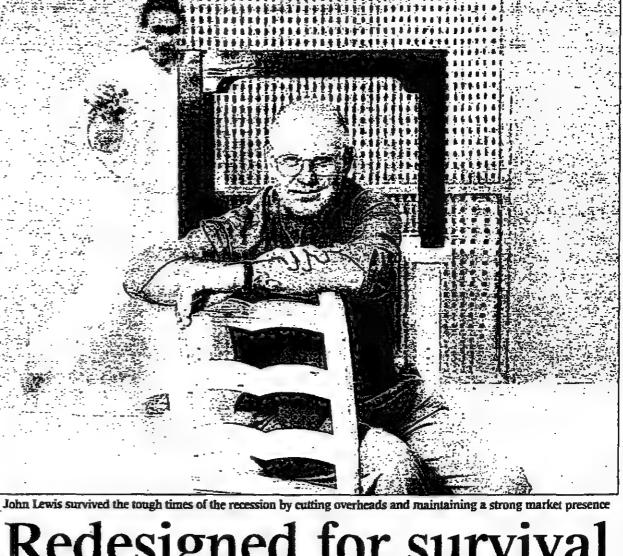
The notes were prepared in the context of decisions in the House of son, Northampton; Ince & Co. Lords and Court of Appeal in rela-

tion to the position of wives who charged a property of which they were the joint owners to secure a debt of the husbarld or a company he controlled

The notes did not impose on those solicitors any obligation to ob-tain written confirmation signed by the borrower's solicitor that he was advising both husband and tain separate advice.

wife or had advised the wife to ob-The obligation on the lender's solicitor was to satisfy himself by whatever means seemed to him appropriate in the circumstances that the guarantor had obtained advice

either from the borrower's solicitor or an independent solicitor. Lord Justice Kennedy and Lord Justice Laws agreed. Solicitors: Shoosmiths & Harri-



## Redesigned for survival

itchen-maker John Lewis has two pieces of advice for businesses determined to survive a tough economic dimate: maintain a strong marketing presence and slash your over-

His is the voice of experi-ence. His company, John Lewis of Hungerford, which is listed on the Alternative Investment Market, made expensive kitchens for the excesses of the Eighties, but was hit badly when recession arrived in 1990.

"One day the orders just stopped coming in - it was that sudden." Mr Lewis said. "I had to cut my workforce from 85 people to 12 in just two years."

The redundancies were part of a radical cost-cutting pro-gramme designed with the help of his accountants to save Manus Costello reports on the drastic cuts at a kitchen-maker

the company from going under. The seven showrooms and four factories were reduced to one shop and several concessions, the van was sold

and part of the production process was outsourced. Mr Lewis also made a fundamental change in operations by refusing to let his designers make any more expenive home visits. "Cutting back was like prior-

ing a plant to look for new and healthy growth," he said. "Stopping home visits meant that we needed to put in an extra marketing effort to get customers to come to us." To achieve this, Mr Lewis decided to change his main

product, focusing on kitchens

that still looked good, but which had "the new ingredient of affordability".

The average cost of one of

his kitchens came down from £25,000 to under £5,000. The new kitchen, the "Artisan", is measured up entirely by the customer, who receives box of cookies, a drawing board and paper to help him or her to get on with the proc-ess — the kind of marketing

trick that has helped the business to grow again. The company now employs 33 people and had a turnover of £2 million last year.

In 1997 El million was raised by a flotation of the company on the Alternative

mixed feelings about the flota-tion," Mr Lewis said. "It raised the necessary cash to bring everything under one roof and build a new factory. and it improved our public profile, but the share price is

disappointing."
He added: "Like many small firms, I believe that we are undervalued." The shares are trading at 2p.

Mr Lewis says that the current slowdown is already biting, with orders coming in fits and starts and smart customers waiting for discounts in sales. However, he is confident that the firm is more resilient than in the early Nineties.

"Our overheads are now very low, with more outsourcing taking out a lot of big fixed costs," he said. "We have carved a niche in the market. I think we learnt a lot from our Investment Market. "I have experience last time round."

Availability of alternative forum

### Chancellor to boost share schemes

BY SUSAN EMMETT

THOUSANDS of small and medium-sized companies could benefit from proposals for a new type of employee share scheme by the Employee Share Ownership Centre (ESOC).

Measures to boost the numer of companies offering allemployee share schemes are expected in the Budget as part of the Chancellor's push to pro-mote enterprise. The idea is to encourage more employees to take a stake in their companies and to maximise the contribution of share ownership schemes to productivity.

In the Pre-Budget Report, Gordon Brown said that he wanted to double the number of companies that offer allemployee schemes. However, experts believe that this objective can be achieved only if smaller listed and unlisted companies are encouraged to set up the schemes.

For these companies, the restrictive nature of the schemes. and their complexity and cost, can be real issues. Unquoted companies lace the extra prob-lem of having to provide some form of market for the shares that are ultimately delivered.

ESOC's proposals, backed by the Institute of Directors and ProShare, the organisation that promotes the private ownership of shares, aim to mirror the US Esop scheme, in which ten million American employees participate, while building on the best of existing schemes in this country.

The main attraction to smaller, unquoted companies of the Millennium Esop, or "Millie", is the tax breaks it would offer when setting up a trust to provide a market for employee shares. As with its US counterpart, the Millie trust would retain shares on behalf of employees, which would cut the costs of running the scheme. However, KPMG, the ac-

countants, said business needs fewer schemes, not more.

EDITED BY HENRIETTA LAKE henrietta\_lake@the-times.co.uk

**Court of Appeal** 

Court of Appeal Law Report February 23 1999

### Children must be returned

In re C (Minors) (Abduction: Habitual residence) Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord

Judgment February 12 In the absence of clear and compelor other severe intolerability, the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Canad 8281), given effect by the Child Abduction and Custody Act 1985, required a par-

ent, wrongfully retaining her two young children in England, to re-turn them to the jurisdiction of the court of their habitual residence. The inevitable anxiety and uncertainty of the children's return and the splitting up of their present family unit was not sufficient to satisfy the stringent test which had to be applied to establish a grave risk of psychological harm within of article 13 of the Convention.

The Court of Appeal so held in a diserved judgment allowing a fa-her's appeal from the refusal by Mr Justice Connell in July 1998 to order the return of children to Cali-

Article 13 of the 1980 Convention provides: "...the judicial or admin-istrative authority of the requested State is not bound to order the return of the child if the person ... whol opposes its return established that \_ (b) there is a grave risk that his or her return would expose the child to physical or psychological harm or otherwise place the child in an intolerable situation ... it may also refuse to order the return of the child if it finds that the child objects ... [having] obtained an age and degree of maturity at which it is appropriate to take ac-

count of its views". The father in person; Mr Marcus Scott-Manderson, who did not appear below, for the mother. LORD JUSTICE WARD said that the parents married in 1988. Their two children were born in

Mercantile Credit Co Ltd and

Another v Ferwick and Oth-

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord

Justice Chadwick and Lord Justice

A solicitor retained by a bank to ex-

ecuse a legal charge over property

jointly owned by a husband and

wife to secure a debt incurred sole-

ly by the husband or a company he

controlled, was under an obliga-

ion to conduct the transaction ap-

lying the usual current conveyanc-

Same v Speechly Bircham

Judgment February 12]

Laws

riage in 1994, giving the parents joint legal custody of the children and ordering that neither should change the residence of the children without the consent of the other or order of the court. In 1994 the mother married the

steplather and they had a daughter horn in 1997. Intense hostility existed between the father and stepfa-In August 1997 a Californian iu-

venile court found allegations of serious physical harm of the children by the father to have been established. That decision was πot not accepted by the father and he had appealed against it. In November 1997 the mother

obtained the court's permission to visit England for Christmas, giving the home of her mother-in-law as her address. She failed to return with the children to California. The father, invoking the Hague Convention, issued an originating summons seeking their return.

The mother filed her defence asserting grave risk that the return of en would expose them to physical or psychological harm and otherwise place them in an in-tolerable position and that they objected to being returned to Ameri-

Mr Justice Connell held that the defence alleging physical harm was not made out. Having referred to the court welfare officer's report, the judge said that he bore in mind that if the children were returned the stepfather could not because he

had been refused re-entry.

He also said that the father had given an undertaking, the reliability of which he doubted, not to seek to promote a prosecution of the nother in California for kidnap

ping.

The judge concluded that the welfare officer's fears and his opinion on the risk of psychological harm were well founded. It would, he said "be intolerable for these

1988 and 1990. The Superior Court of California dissolved the marriage in 1994, giving the parents in which they were in a jurisdiction where they did not wish to be, being looked after by a mother who was subject to [such] stresses and

The mother, he held, had brought herself within article 13(b) and it would not be appropriate for him to order the children's return to California.

in In re H (Minors) (Abduction:
Acquissence) (1998) AC 72, 81)
Lord Browne-Wilkinson had said
that "the object of the Convention is to protect children from the harmful effects of their wrongful removal from the country of their habitual residence to another country or their wrongful retention in some country other than that of their habinual residence. This is to be achieved by establishing a procedure to ensure the prompt return of the child to the state of his habitu-

There was an established line of authority that the court should require clear and compelling evidence of the grave risk of harm or other intolerability which had to be measured as substantial, not trivial, and of a severity which was much more than was inherent in the inevitable disruption, uncertainty and anxiety which followed an unwelcome return to the jurisdiction of the court of habitual residence: see In re A (a Minor) (Abduction) [1988] 1 FLR 365); C v C (Abduction: Rights of Custody) [1989] I WLR 654) and B v B (Ab-

duction: Custody Rights) [1993] Fam 321. The judge had not expressly directed himself to the stringency test that he should adopt. The particular factors which weighed heavily with him were the effect of splitting the family and the uncertainties of the mother's prosecution in the light of the unsatisfactory undertaking given by the father.

The uncertainty of the mother's position had now been compounded by having temporarily separat-ed from her husband. She had no

Duty of solicitors retained by lenders

than those obtained through her

But it was for the Californian court to assess the implication of the uncertainties. By their own actions the mother and stepfather had created the adverse condition

on which they now sought to rely. In In re E (Minor) (Abduction) [1989] 1 FLR 135, 142) Lord Justice Balcombe said that the purpose of the Convention was to ensure that "parties do not gain adventitious advantage by ... having taken the child ... to another jurisdiction. then wrongfully to retain that child". The judge erred in not bearing that in mind.

The approach of the court to the views of young children was stated by Lord Justice Balcombe in In re S (Minor) (Abduction: Custody Rights) [1993] Fam 242, 252). Here the welfare officer said of the chil-dren: "They are, of course, very much influenced by their mother. who has been their primary carer since birth, and their stepfather". That made the children's objec-tions unreliable and incapable of

sustaining an article 13(b) defence. No limb of the article 13 defence was established by the mother. It was doubtful whether it was appropriate for the court to speculate, as the judge had done, as to whether or not it was in the childrea's best interest to require them to return. To do so was to usurp the

function of the Californian court. It was also to be noticed that the children had been away for over a year. Delays in the legal process had not served them well. That was most regrettable.

The duty of the court was to implement the Convention trusting in its underlying thesis that the welfare of these children would be best served by the Californian court now dealing with their future. An order for their return to California should be made.

Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Aukl agreed Solicitors: Dawson Cornwell & Askin and Others v Absa Bank Ltd and Others Before Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Robert Walker and Lord Justice Tuckey

[Judgment January 29] On an application to stay proceedines on the ground of forum non conveniens where the onus of proof was in issue such that it was con tended that the defendant had not shown there was an appropriate or other available tribunal in which to try the issues or if he had, that the plaintiff could not then show why justice required trial in the juwere issued, it was arguable wheth er the alternative court had to be available to the plaintiff in practi-

cal terms. The Court of Appeal so stated when dismissing the appeal of Mr Julian Askin, Amesby Ltd and Cormon investments inc against a de-cision of Mr Justice Buckley on June 13, 1997 staying proceedings against Absa Bank Ltd, Bankorp Ltd, Mr Gerbie Strydon, Mr Jaco bus Morland, Dr Daniel Cronie and Mr Petrus Badenhorst, on the ground of forum non conveniens.

The plaintiffs had instituted

claims against the defendants for fraukl, misrepresentation and conspiracy relating to business dealings in South Africa.

Also applied to stay proceedings in the United Kingdom argu-

ing that South Africa was the appropriate forum.

Mr Askins appealed on the ba-

sis (i) that he could not bring proceedings in South Africa because there was outstanding in South Africa a warrant for his arrest on criminal charges; South African law did not allow a person outside the country who was avoiding pro-posed criminal charges within South Africa to institute civil proceedings there; and (ii) that he would not return to South Africa because he considered himself in personal danger.

Mr David Railton, QC, for Mr and Mr Craig Orr for the bank.

LORD JUSTICE TUCKEY said of evidence reduced to seven on ap-peal and following what Lord Tem-pleman said in Spiliada Maritime Corporation y Cansulex Ltd (1987) AC 460, 465) on such applications evidence should be focused on the essential points and the submissions should be measured in hours

As was accepted in argument. the court was concerned with the big picture not a multitude of issues of detail. The Guide to Commercial Court Practice (4th edition) (The Supreme Court Practice 1999 paragraphs 72/AJ-30) set four hours as the maximum time for the hearing of such an application. Practitioners should bear that in mind whether or not the summons was in the Commercial Court.

The judge had applied the two-stage test laid down by Lord Gost in Spiliada (at p474-478). His finding on applying the first stage, that

the case was clearly centred in one iurisdiction. South Africa, was not challenged on appeal. However, in defining the first part of the test Long Golf had relemed to other available forum".

The plaintiffs contended that South Africa was not an available forum to them because Mr Askin would not go there as he would be arrested and imprisoned and he feared for his personal safety. The judge accepted that "availa-

ble" meant "available in practice". but held that the South African courts were available to Mr Askin because the fact that in order to avoid a fair trial of the criminal charges he chose to stay in England and not avail himself of them, could not alter that. It was common ground that the

South African courts had jurisdiction to hear the plaintiffs' civil claims. The plaintiffs challenged the judge's decision on availability. The defendants contended, if

necessary, that "available" did not mean "available in practice". It other forum had competent jurisdiction to try the dispute. The judge dealt with the second stage of the Spiliada test under the question: did justice nevertheless

require trial in England? In anwering that question he noted that it was his duty to consider all the circumstances of the case. He was clearly of the view that justice did On the point about "availabili-

ty in practice arose. That was clear-

cepted the judge's definition that practice to the plaintiff to have his dispute resolved". While the decision in Moham-

ty", his Lordship noted that in Mo-

hammed v Bank of Kuwait (11996)

med could be explained on it spe-cial facts what Lord Justice Evans said about "available" was criticised by commentators. The essence of the criticism was that the court had elided the two

stages of the test in Spiliada which was clearly spelt out by Lord Goff and was simple to apply. It was submitted that Lord Goff

could not have intended "availa-ble" to mean available in practice that a defendant was entitled to apply to stay proceedings on the basis that there was a more appropriate forum was derived from the Scottish case of Sim v Robinow ((1892) 19 R 665). There Lord Kinnear referred simply to the fact that a plea could never be sustained unless the court was satisfied there was some other tribunal having competent ju-

risdiction. At the first stage of the test, the court was only concerned to identify and evaluate the connecting facfors where there were competing courts of competent jurisdiction. It was only at the second stage that questions relating to availabiliin Connelly v RTZ Corporation plc (1998) AC 854, 871-2). His Lordship thought there was substance in the criticisms of Mo-

only of any practical importance in a case, unlike the present case, which turned upon the onus of On applications of this sort it was for the defendant to show that another appropriate forum was

hammed. However the noint was

available. It was for the plaintiff to show that nevertheless justice required trial in England and the availability of the other forum in the wider sense was relevant to that second stage. Furthermore, it was commor

ground in the present case that wherever the ultimate onus of proof lay, the evidential burden of proof lay initially with the party ho made the alle Here the plaintiffs had made extremely serious allegations. Mr

Railton accepted that it was for them to produce evidence objectivesupporting those allegations be fore any question of gous arose. the outcome of the present case de-pended upon onus. Nevertheless in

a case which did, it might be necessary for the court to consider whether its decision in Moham-med could stand against Spiliada and Connelly.

Lord Justice Robert Walker and Lord Justice Peter Gibson agreed. Solicitors: Amhurst Brown Colombotti: Berwin Leighton.

### Sentencing is an art not a science

ly the approach which Lord Goff

adopted when applying Spiliada

Regina v Graham Before Lord Justice Rose, Mr Justice Ognall and Mr Justice Burton Dudgment February 12]

When considering future complaints about sentencing, the Criminal Cases Review Commission might be assisted by a number of factors, one being that a defendant could not be described as a victim of a possible miscarriage of justice in sentenced lawfully in accordance with the prevailing tariff and all factors relevant to sentence were known to the sentencing

The Court of Appeal, Criminal. Division, so stated when dismissing an anneal by Edward John Graham against his conviction on March II, 1994, at Liverpool Crown Court (Judge Morgan and jury) of conspiracy fraudulently to evade the prohibition on the importation of a class B drug (cannabis) and against his sentence on April 15. 1994, of 12 years imprisonment. A confiscation order in the sum of £96,564,20 with two years imprisonment consecutive in default was de under the Drugs Trafficking Offences Act 1986.

Mr Antonis Georges, assigned

by the Registrar of Criminal Ap-peals, for the appellant: Mr Chris-

topher Stables for the prosecution. LORD JUSTICE ROSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant was the main organiser in a conspiracy involving four importations into the United Kingdom from South Africa by air in 1992 of herbal cannabis bought in Swaziland. The appellant took the lion's share of profit from the enter-

Whatever the weight of drug involved, the starting point for sentencing should rise according to roles played, careful planning of importations and all other factors involved such as the brains, organisation and finance as provided here by the appellant. In those circumstances. 12 years was not excessive and the appeal was dismissed. His Lordship offered further ob-

servations which might also be of assistance to the commission: I An alteration in the statutory maximum or minimum penalty between sentence and reference to the

court couldnot give rise to a legitimate grievance: for example, a person sentenced to eight years for theft when the ma was 10 years could not complain

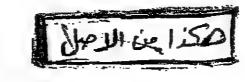
when Parliament subsequently reduced the maternum penalty to sev-

2 The level of sentencing, both generally and in relation to a particular offence, did rise and fall over a period of years in response to changes in public opinion.

The philosophy of limiting the use of imprisonment, which was behind the Criminal Justice Act 1991, was replaced five years later by the assertion: "Prison works". There were other factors which from time to time affected sentencing levels, for example, prison overcrowding. R v Ollerenshaw (The Times May 6, 1998; [1999] Cr App R (S) 65) and R v Howells ([1999] ! WLR 307), where short periods of imprisonment were urged, could not be the basis for complaint by those who unsuccessfully appealed against sentence some time previ-

ously. 4 Sentencing decisions of the Court of Appeal did not have restrospective effect and only reflect the current tariff. The judgment in R v Ronchetti (1998) 2 Cr App R (S)) conformed with R v Aramah ((1982) 4 Cr App R (S)) which provided guidelines, not a strait-jacket.

Sentencing was an art not a sci-



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Going back again

again. So he gives them a miss Big mistake. If the job is suitable you should go for it. Candidates and employers view recrui nal effort. He felt badly abou It. For several days, it loomed large in his life, and he remem bers it still. To the employer, a was of no great significance. They scarcely noticed it. They make lots of offers; they get lots of refusals. Par for the course. When they look the new candi-date up on their database, of course, they find that he turned down an offer. But so what? If he's suitable, they'll be delighte

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# Dividing the assets: pensions split at divorce

A nw Bill will allov ex-wives a stake in a penson, says Hilay Siddle

thight she had a saland comfortable mariage. She and her husban Andrew, who had a good b, had brought up three chilren. They lived in a beautifulouse and, now that the childin had left, they could afford to relax. She looked forwarto a long and happy retiremnt, thanks to Andrew's gertous pension scheme.

That prospectaded sudden-ly in 1994 afterne couple re-turned from Caribbean cruise to celebre their 30th wedding anniversry. Andrew announced that e had been having an affair the a young-er woman and unted a divorce. This arbuncement would have profund financial implications or Claire, apart from the shot and trauma, not least because she would have no righto any of Andrew's pension.

A pension can be le largest asset owned by a coule, some times worth more lian the family home. Withot a share of it. Claire would beeft with an uncertain futue. She might get a share of it family home, but she mighthave to sell it to provide someorm of income into her old ag

This is the problem pat the Government is seeking to redress in its Welfare bform and Pensions Bill, which today reaches its secondreading in the Commons. Drice implemented — expectednext year at the earliest — the Bill will introduce a system of ension-sharing (also known as pension-splitting) in Englind

The Law Society and family lawyers are united in applauling this move. It is not a panicea for all ills, but it will give some divorcing couples a use ful extra remedy to help to sor out their finances on divorce The scheme is welcome because it will be flexible and allow people to deal with their pensions at the time of their divorce. It will give people greater certainty about what

hey will receive and when. The Law Society has been alling for pension-sharing ince 1991 because, in the past, eople such as Claire - midte-aged, with wealthy parters and little earning capach themselves — have lost out. hy? Because courts have hi limited powers in dealing Wh pension rights. In particu-



A pension can be the largest asset owned by a couple; sometimes it may be worth more than the family home

lar, courts have been able only to look at assets which would accrue in the "foreseeable future", five or, at most, ten years after the divorce.

Any pension, no matter how large, could not be taken into account by the court if it was due to come into effect more than ten years after the divorce. Gradually, the climate has been changing. The Pensions Act 1995 introduced the remedy of "earmarking". This gave courts the power to earmark a pension when a couple got divorced, so that the ncome could be split when the money-earner reached retirement. But earmarking has proved a flawed and little-used remedy. It does not give cou-

partner, usually the wife, often has no certainty of how much get and when she will get it. In addition, any payments she can expect to receive will cease if her former husband predeceases her.

The Government has adopted a flexible approach to imple-menting pension-sharing. Earmarking and offsetting pensions against other assets will still be available. Also, where pension-sharing is used. courts can decide to divide a pension in the fairest way possible - a 50-50 split will not be automatic.

There are, however, issues that need to be carefully tackled. It is crucial that people ples a clean break when they divorce and the dependent to be introduced and what

they should do to take advantage of it. The Government has a tough job to ensure that the public gets the message ahead of pension-sharing becoming available. It is also vital that no one treats pensionsharing as a panacea. It will not solve all the problems of post-divorce poverty frequently endured by women and children. There are increasing numbers of people, such as those employed part-time or on a temporary contract basis. who are earning no pension at all. And if you don't have a pen-

• The author is chairman of the Law Society's Family Law Committee and practising family lawyer at Holden & Wilsons in Lancaster.

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### Sorry, but no EU bonus for paperboys and girls

Pannick QC

oger Clarke, chief executive of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents, has expressed concern that paperboys and girls may be entitled to four weeks paid holiday a year under the European Union Working Time Directive. He said that this would lead to thousands of job losses and the end of home deliveries. As Shakespeare's Earl of Northumberland observed (Henry IV, Part 2): "The first bringer of unwelcome news bath but a losing office." Mr. come news hath but a losing office." Mr Clarke's concerns led to an accusation from John Redwood, the Conservative Trade and Industry spokesman, that the Government was responsible for "an unholy mess". Stephen Byers, the Trade and Industry Secretary, was reported to be "deeply unhappy"

about the problem, but an-nounced that "the working time rules do not apply to those of school age".

Many of the problems posed by the Working Time Directive display the classic ingredients of disputes about European Union law. The legal instrument uses language both complex and vague. The policy objectives are confused. And a definitive answer to many of the questions will be provided, only after much delay and expense, by the European Court of Justice speaking in delphic terms. Though the Working Time Directive rais-

es many such difficulties, the

status of paperboys and girls is not one of them. The Government's analysis is correct paperboys and girls under the age of 16 cannot claim paid holidays.

The directive, adopted in November 1993. introduced a measure of harmonisation of working conditions in order to promote health and safety. The directive requires that workers be given a minimum daily rest period of II consecutive hours, a minimum uninterrupted rest period of 24 hours each week, a maximum working week of 48 hours, four weeks' paid annual leave and other entitlements. Various occupations are excluded from some, but not all, of these benefits. The last Conservative Government consid-

ered that the directive was unlawful, and sued the Council of the European Union in the European Court of Justice. The claim was dismissed in November 1996. The new Government then consulted interested parties, before introducing the Working Time Regulations 1998, to implement the directive with effect from October 1, 1998.

The 1998 regulations have no application to paperboys and girls. The regulations confer distinct entitlements on adult workers fthose over the age of 18) and on young workthe age of 15 (but are under 18) and who are over compulsory school age. The regulations cannot have been intended to confer rights on children aged 15 and under, who are not

mentioned in the text.

To the extent that there is any ambiguity about the 1998 regulations, they have to be interpreted consistently with the Working Time Directive, which they seek to implement the directive area to involve the seek. ment. The directive was not intended to confer a right to paid holidays for employed chil-dren. Article 14 states that the provisions of the directive do not apply "where other Com-munity instruments contain more specific requirements". There is another directive. adopted in 1994, specifically protecting

young people at work. The 1994 Directive on the Protection of Young People at Work states that special measures are needed with regard to the health and safety of children. Article 4 prohibits work by children, subject to specific exceptions, such as performances in cultural and advertising activities, training schemes, and "light work" by those over the age of 14 (national law may lower this age to 13). It is for each member state to "determine the working conditions" relating to light work, subject to maximum working periods, such as two hours "light work" on

any schoolday.
Article 11 regulates annual holidays for children in light work. Members states must ensure that "a period free of any work is included, as far as possible, in the school holidays of children subject to compulsory full-time schooling". These requirements have been implemented by the Children (Protection at Work) Regulations 1998. Those regulations require each child to have at least two consecutive weeks without employment during school holidays. Since EU law specifically addresses the working conditions of children by the 1994 Directive on the Protection of Young People at Work. which confers no right to paid holidays, and leaves it to member states to regulate the conditions of light work, the more general Working Time Directive cannot have been intended to impose conflicting standards.

So EU law will not affect the valuable service by paperboys and girls. But there are many more complex problems of interpreta-tion and application posed by the Working Time Directive and regulations that employment lawyers will have difficulty fitting into their "maximum weekly working time". The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow

of All Souls College, Oxford.

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## Headlines save Lord Irvine

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most o reporting of his fresh efeat in the Lords, this tie on the Criminal Defen: Service, during debaten the Access to Justice Bill Lord Irvine Lairg has pledged that the Governmer will reverse this defeat - and also their will remove a new clause voted intohe Bill which introduces new overridiz aims into the Bill and protects

Law Socty, Bar and consumer groups who backd it. Also ovshadowed were calls by Lord Lester of Frue Hill for the Lord Chancellor to give his role as head of the judiciary; and thlaw lords to give up their vot-ing rights i the Upper House. He quoted another w lord. Lord Steyn, who believes there re positive disadvantages in the Lord Chicellor's being both a Cabinet membernd head of the judiciary.

access trjustice. He has dismissed the

clause as "girnmick", to the fury of the

alive and kicking at the Bar. A set of chambers has pinned a note to a notice board in Gray's lan advertising a vacancy "suitable for a barrister with his own practice". This was too much for one passer-by, who angrily replaced "his"

The Law Society's proposed National Law Day, heralded as a profile-raiser for the profession and a chance to highlight its work in the community, has been cancelled. The official reason: too much else is going on in the profession. But, unoffi-cially, there has been a total lack of interest from local law societies.

Dohnny Depp. the American movie star, was recently reported to have bought a bottle of wine for £11.000 at London's Mirabelle restaurant. This Wednesday Gray's Inn opens its wine cellar for a tasting evening for members of the Inn. Julian Jeffs, QC, the Master of the Cellar,

☐ Male chauvinism is will offer "generous tastings" of ten classic wine varieties.

Mr Jeffs cannot promise anything of the quality enjoyed by Mr Depp, but he assures would-be wine-suppers that the bottles would liven up any dinner party.

☐ One of the few monopolies was scrapped last week. Lord Irvine of Lairg ended the scriveners' exclusive hold on notarial work in the City and opened a po-tentially lucrative source of work for solicitor notaries. There are 1,000 notaries in England and Wales, including 950 solicitors, who chiefly authenticate documents for use abroad. Under an Act of George 111, only 29 notaries who are members of the Scriveners' Company have had exclusive rights to provide legal services for Central London's 38 square miles.

☐ The first retrospective of one of Britain's greatest photographers, Terence Do-novan, is being sponsored by Denton Hall, the City law firm. The exhibition at the Museum of London from March I to Airgust 1 features 120 photographs taken between 1959 and 1996.

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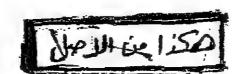
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# Leading the fight for justice

his year sees the countdown to one of the most revolutiontion to hit the statute books. At some point next year, the Human Rights Act will be enacted. But the Act - which affects decisions of every public authority, every court and, above all, every citizen — is already starting to bite.

Human rights have been at the heart of legal moves to extradite General Pinochet, as well as running through the in-quiry into the death of Stephen Lawrence (which was leaked at the weekend). Geoff Hoon, Minister of State at the Lord Chancellor's Department, last week told public authorities that they should be taking account of human rights.

Even now, he said, they should be making sure that their decisions do not breach the human rights which the Act makes a part of domestic law. If they do not, they could find themselves challenged in the courts when the Act takes effect, even over decisions

Currently being taken
The Act is starting to
prompt an explosion of work for the judges, courts and law-yers — as well as public offi-cials. The Act will be cited in cases in magistrates' courts and right up to the Court of Ap-

This year's Times/Justice-awards seek to recognise the work lawyers are doing - individually or as part of an organisation such as a pressure

The legal struggle for human rights will be at the centre of our awards this year. Frances Gibb looks at some of the candidates

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have hit the headlines; the Lawrence team: Michael Mansfield, QC, and Imran Khan, the Lawrence family solicitor, and other radical lawyers such as Raju Bhatt and Girish Thanki, In the Pinochet appeal, Peter Duffy, QC, who has already built a reputation in human rights, acted for Amnesty International.

A third, quite different battle was fought by Sarah Harman, the solicitor who obtained compensation for hundreds of women whose cervical smear tests were wrongly diagnosed at Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Also ground-breaking have been a series of cases taken to the European Court of Human Rights. Ben Emmer-

son, barrister and leading expert on human rights law with Nuala Mole, the director of the Aire Centre - secured a test ruling from Strasbourg, which established that the police were not immune from negligence actions.

NOMINATION FOR

ORGANISATION OF THE YEAR

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Phil Leach, legal director at Liberty, the human rights group, has spearheaded a

edict Birnberg has been at the forefront of the campaign for a Community Legal Service, which this year should come to fruition when the Government publishes its proposals. Candidates for the group

award, to go to the organisation which has done most this year to widen access to justice. nclude the Environmental Law Foundation, which has helped many community groups fight eco issues, and Inquest, which campaigns for re-forms of the coroner's inquest

> The judges will look for one or more of the following: a contribution and commitment to human rights; a contribution to a better and fairer administration of justice; persistent and diligent work on an impor-tant case which came to fruition in 1998-99; and work over and above professional commitments.

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## The leak, the judge and free speech

Press gags run against Labour policy, says Gordon Nardell

nother leak has led to another "pyjama" injunction, an order usually made outside court hours because a judge is persuaded, that the leak would do untold barm to the applicant's vital interests, Mr Justice Rix has followed tradition in illustrating the difficulty English courts have in finding a satsfactory place for freedom of expression, and especially journalistic freedom, in the principles governing the way judges should react to requests for prior re-straint of publication.

When the Human Rights Act 1998 comes into force, probably in October 2000, the courts will have to apply Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights directly. That provision guarantees the right to freedom of expression.

In too many cases, the European Court of Human Rights has taken English judges to task for being too ready to subordinate free expression to political and commercial interests favouring restraint. A recent example is the court's 1996 judgment condemning the threat to jail the journalist Bill Goodwin for refusing to disclose the source of leaked information.

The fact that Mr Goodwin had to take his case to Strasbourg indicates the deep-seated nature of the problem. The legislation wader which the English courts ordered disclosure. Section 10 of the 1981 Contempt of Court Act, had itself been introduced to bring UK law into line with an earlier Strasbourg ruling on Article 10. There are some indications of a thaw in judicial attitudes to-wards freedom of expression in advance of the Human Rights Act's com-

But the thaw is at best patchy. In 1997, a year after the European Court's Goodwin judgment and in circumstances almost identical to that case, the lottery operator Camelot persuaded the High Court to put journalistic freedom to one side and grant an order, again under the 1981 Act, for disclosure of a source.

Section 12 of the Human Rights Act addresses this problem. It imposes strict limitations on the circumstances in which the courts can grant injunctions before a full trial in cases where freedom of expres-sion is at issue, and requires the court to have particular regard" to the importance of that freedom. That, given the unimpressive track record of our courts, is to be welcomed.

Who says so? Jack Straw. the Home Secretary, announcing his intention to introduce \$12 into the Human Rights Bill, pointed to Goodwin and other Strasbourg cases and said the provision would "send a powerful signal to UK courts that they should be at least as circumspect as judgments of the European Court of Human Rights have been" about attempts to subordinate Article 10 rights to other interests. ■ The author is a barrister proc

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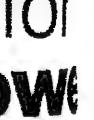
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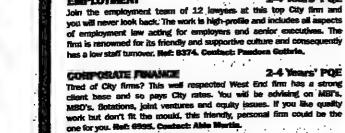
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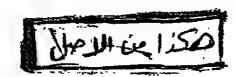
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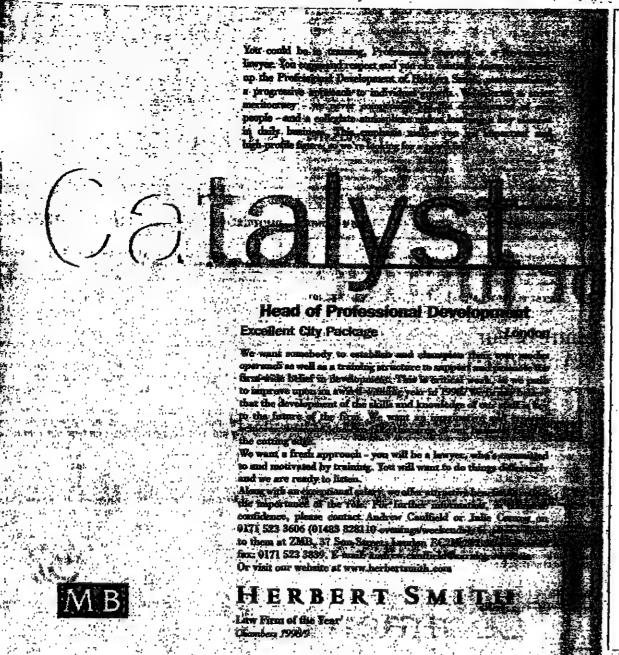
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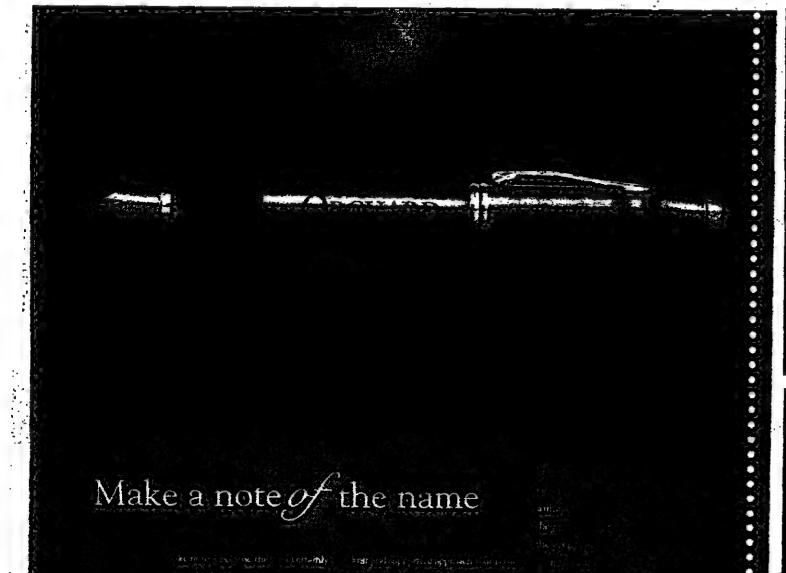
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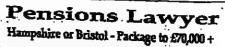
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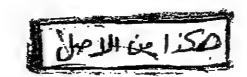
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**SPORT** 

# Lessing aiming to extend his London reign

By DAVID POWELL

SIMON LESSING, the world champion, is planning to attempt a third successive London Triathlon victory this year as the event moves closer towards its target of becoming the world's largest race. TRIATHLO September is set to be a challenging month for Lessing as, a formight before London, he is due to defend his world

Should Lessing be deposed as world champion, though few would bet on it, the London organisers would hope to give him a chance for immediate revenge. "We will be attempting to maintain the quality of the London field by going to Munich to invite the world champions as they are 10,000. That should make us the second-biggest triathlon in the world after only three crowned, if they are not among our entries already," Michael Smithwick, the Lon-

don event manager, said.

Maintaining his position as world No 1 in 1999 will be an important psychological exercise for Lessing in the runof trying to become the biggest up to Olympic year, when the triathlon features for the first time. Furthermore, the

swim-ride-run sport is the opening event on the programme in Sydney and Great Britain, after managing only one gold medal from all sports in Atlanta three years ago, will be looking to Lessing to give the nation a flying

Lessing is spending two months in South Africa train-ing with the British squad before beginning his season in Dubai on March 18. 'Though we have not signed a contract. London is on Simon's schedule." Stefanie Scheer, Less-

ing's manager, said. The London Triathlon succeeds with the same clite and sport-for-all combination as the London Marathon. More people want to take part than can be accommodated and even though a record number will be accepted for the race on

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September 19, more than ever are likely to be turned away. "We had about 7,000 applications last year and took 3,000, of which 2,400 started," Smith-wick said. "Because we have more time and space this year, we will accept 4,000, but we think the number of applications might be as many as

The largest is the Mrs T's Triathion in Chicago, which caters for some 5,000 competitors. "From the beginning, we set ourselves the tough target



and we are on course for that," Smithwick said, "We are the biggest in Europe and second

only to Chicago."
The first London Triathlon was held from West India Dock, but was forced to make a late change to Royal Victoria Dock, from where the event this year is to be held, "There was concern among the local and dock authorities about high-profile events encouraging local children to swim in the docks, which is danger-ous," Smithwick said.

"However, under a different owner, and as part of the agreement, we undertook a programme of activities aimed at local children and encouraging them not to take the risk of swimming in the docks. We went to Victoria Dock at the last minute last year but now, because we have more time and space, we can expand our

numbers.

'The field last year was the best assembled anywhere in the world, apart from in the World Cup and world championship races, and we hope to match that this year."

While the elite athletes, and 70 per cent of London's participants, compete over the Olympic distance of 1,500 metres swim, 40 kilometres ride and 10 kilometres run, there are two other options. Twenty per cent take part in the relay [three athletes per team, one for each discipline] and ten per cent in the sprint race, which is approximately half the Olympic length.
Race fees are E45 for both

the Olympic and sprint events and £150 for the corporate relay competition. For an entry form, telephone 0171 928 5055.

### Els makes it look so easy

South African strikes his best form at right time, reports Mel Webb

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IT WOULD be easy for the unwary to underestimate Ernie Els. The rangy and amiable South African's public face is that of a man who exists in a comfort zone of his own, leading his life without the stresses and pressures that are so often the lot of the man who is blessed, or cursed, by an ultracompetitive nature. It would be easy; and it would be so, so

Take the four days leading up to Sunday, for example. At regular intervals during day-light in the 96 hours. Els loped round the Riviera course and. its environs and told everybody who was prepared to listen that Tiger Woods and David Duval were the best players in the world. Els was at the Riviera to play in the PGA Nissan Open, and sowere the other two. So what did he do to his two herees? He heat them. Of course, he

Els, 29, has the priceless gift of making victory seem like a gentle stroll in the countryside. Nothing seems too hur-ried, nothing too testing, nothing too dramatic. He is one of the few men in world golf who is capable of reducing a golf course to rubble while looking for all the world as if he is playing a friendly game with a pal for a golf ball and a gin and tonic. It must be infuriate ing to play alongside him, especially if you are in conten-tion yourself and your foot is having to jam the accelerator flat to the floor just to keep up. Els was in one of his moods

second 68 in as many days to win with a total of 270, 14 under par, and could even afford a bogey on the last hole to beat Ted Tryba, the overnight leader, and Woods by two strokes. Els will go into the Andersen Consulting Match Play, the inaugural World Golf Championship event that starts at Carisbad. California, tomorrow, with a handsome victory as his most

on Sunday as he produced his



never appears to be unduly exercised by the format. He is a gentle individual by nature and inclination, but the oppo-nent who takes his laid-back mien for a lack of competitive spark will find out soon enough that he has made a serious error.

This latest victory, his seventh on the US PGA Tour, was achieved even though he lost a little of his momentum as he approached the line. He bogeyed two of the last three holes and missed a 5th putt for par on the last to give Tryba and Wood the faintest glim-

mering of hope. With Els in the chibhouse, Tryba and Woods needed birdies on the last to force a play-off - and

could not get them.

They both hit the fairway but made an almighty mess of their second strokes. Tryba landing in deep greenside rough to the left and Woods pushing his ball into a concession tent. When Woods chipped 20ft short and Tryba's ball stopped 10ft shy of the hole, the tournament was won and lost.

"When you are competing gainst players of this calibre, it is very satisfying to come out

I have read and accept the rules and wish to

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down as one of my good ones. I have given Tiger a chance or two in the past and he has taken advantage — at least I

kind of did the job today."

It was Els's first victory in the US since he won at Bay Hill, in Orlando, last year, and with the victory he maintained a sequence that only Phil Mickelson can match by winning at least one US tour title in six consecutive years. He also passed \$5 million (about £3.1 million) in US prize-money - and hardly once has he so much as broken

ROWING

### **British lift** five titles in Boston party

By MIKE ROSEWELL ROWING CORRESPONDENT

GREAT BRITAIN WOR five titles in the world indoor championships in Boston, Massachusetts, on Sunday. Cath Bishop, from Marlow, a 1998 world silver medal-winner in the coxless pairs, took her first world indoor title in the women's open event. She was the fastest qualifier and won the 2,000 metres final in 6min 37sec, four seconds ahead of Sarah Lauritzen, of Denmark.

Frances Houghton, from Wheatley, Oxford, still only 18 but with three junior Great Britain vests, took the women's junior title. Her time of 6:46 left her nearly ten seconds ahead of the field.

Older Britons also played their part. Noel Frost, 60, from Wallingford, took 7.9sec off the world record on his way to the men's 60-69 title, recording 6:31. Harry Welsh, 72, from Canterbury, won gold in the 70-79 lightweight category with 8:07.

In the women's 40-49 class, Sarah Springman, the three-time European and Il-time British triathlon champion, beat the present champion, Su Larcombe, from Yeovil, in 7:00, the only event in which Britain took gold and silver.

Britain's leading male rowers were not in Boston. Greg Searle, the top sculler and indoor champion, is nursing a back injury while the world champions. Steve Redgrave, Matthew Pinsent, James Cracknell and seven other Leander internationals have a Comic Relief appointment tomorrow at the Rowing Museum in Henley.
The Leander team will

attempt to beat the 100,000 metres world ergometer record. Starting at 9.15am and rowing in 500-metre shifts. they will tackle the existing 5hr 3min 14sec record held by Nottingham University. Their target time is 4hr 50min. More than 1,000 rowing and fitness clubs are taking part in the Red Nose Row efforts for Comic Relief.

SEDGEFIELD

£145 60 1

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TO ENTER BY POST

two-digit selections. The order in which you recister your first three drivers will be your

of the Australian Grand Prix, postal entries

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Complete the form, right, with your 12

predictions for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishing places for the grands prix where bonus points apply. To qualify for the start

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RACING: STRONG ENTRY OFFERS SUPPORT FOR TRACK AFTER DEATH OF THREE HORSES AT PREVIOUS FIXTURE

# Sedgefield responds to safety issues

THOUGH there is much substance to the view that what happened at Sedgefield last week was as freakish as it was gruesome, enough has been done in the interim to suggest that the course layout might not have been wholly innocent when three horses were killed in a head-on collision.

Naturally, today's meeting at the Co Durham track is held with due optimism that lightning cannot strike twice. a hope endorsed by 69 runners on the card. The tight circuit at Sedgefield made it especially vulnerable to the sort of unpalatable drama that brought a mundane novices' chase off the sports pages and to the top of racing's agenda of increasing vigilance in welfare. There are no plans to use outriders to round up the loose horses that caused last week's tragedy, as not everyone is as convinced of their effectiveness as the executive at Fakenham, a similarly sharp track.

But several other alterations have won approval from welfare organisations for being

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright

suggests the best value in

the ante-post market ?

QUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

objective is to discourage loose horses from turning back into the path of continuing runners. With advice from Ron Barry, the Jockey Club course inspector, and local trainers, three funnels have been constructed, one either side of the course after the post and another adjacent to the last hurdle. The paddock chute has also been moved, while an official will pull a tape across if loose horses start running back down the straight. Another will brandish a red flag at the home turn if riders require

warning of peril ahead.

These and other measures were passed last Friday by inspectors including the RSPCA's equine consultant, who described himself as "impressed", and Lorcan Wyer, so lucky to escape serious injury when flung some ten feet into the air by last Tuesday's pileup. "We're confident we've taken every precaution," Alan Brown, the course manager,

said yesterday. "What hap-pened was a tragic and unforboth prompt and prudent. The tunate accident."

Sue Smith, who lost a horse, is too distressed to have another runner at Sedgefield, but other trainers are happy that the only remaining difficulty is the animals own unpredicta-bility. Wyer also offered his confidence, saying: "I've no ob-jections to going back and riding over the course so long as I'm not on a scary donkey."

Even so dubious a conveyance would be unable to re-peat last week's horrors, of course, if the ground cannot absorb the four degrees of frost forecast overnight. Yesterday's cards survived

unscathed, permitting Venetia Williams to pass another landmark at Fontwell, a treble taking her past 50 winners for the season. On the same card, Lady Cricket confirmed herself one of Martin Pipe's most promising French imports by adding the National Spirit Hurdle to her eye-catching

THE Racing Post Chase at Xempton used to provide numerous clues to the Chattanham Festival. However, the past two renewals have been

nuch less competitive, and that is again the case this year with lust 15

ad at the five-day stage and at least four of those unlikely to run. District resident the besting after winning his last two starts by a total and the starts the besting after winning his last two starts by a total and lengths. The handlespin content be excused of over-reacting in mining him 15% in the weights, and he is taken packed at 4-1 with

entries published yesterday for its seven handicaps. This uncertainty, and the fact that the weights are not released until March 3, did not prevent Coral opening a book on four of them, showing its intention to bring new adventure to ante-post betting. Simon Clare, the firm's spokesman, promised "a dynamic and innovative service, with more races

that he is responsible for no

fewer than 92 of the record 546

bow at Newbury. That she was rather less impressive this

time was undoubtedly down

to having to make her own run-

ning and she will assuredly be

found a good opportunity at-

Cheltenham. Pipe, predicta-

bly, has given her endless op-

His circumspection means

RICHARD EVANS

tions at the Festival.

capable of periods rise in the rational roles a trade.

priced up than ever before". Such bold intentions are being somewhat offset by installing favourites at odds not that far off the likely starting prices, but a degree of insulation is perhaps fair for faudably ex-

lending new opportunities.

Island Chief is just 9-2 for the William Hill NH Handican Chase, formerly the Ritz Club, while a quote of 6-1 tops the betting on the Vincent O'Brien County Hurdle (about Toast The Spreece), Coral Cup (Galant Moss), and Mildmay of Flete Chase (Tidebrook, Potentate, Mr Strong Gale).





Wyer is thrown high in the air after a collision with loose horses in the Red Onion Novices' Chase at Sedgefield last Tuesday. The jockey escaped with an injured thumb, but three horses were killed. Photographs: Racing Channel

LUDLOW

2.00 Treasure Dome. 2.30 Moorland Hightlyer.

3.00 Circus Star. 3.30 Entefaal, 4.00 ROLLCALL

(nap). 4.30 Spanish Eyes. 5.00 Malbaum.

2.00 OAK HURDLE (£1,982: 2m) (14 numers)

1 0624 TREASURE DOME 4D (F) C Wection 6-11-11 N WHATSON
2 0 LITTLE MISS LUCY 75 M Heaten-Bits 6-11-8 ... B Powel
3 6732 RUSK 4D (D.S.) J Allen 6-11-7 ... X Abgusu (3)
4 200 SHARRBANARIO 65 J K Piton 5-11-5 ... D J Borchel
5 PPG-LITTLE FLMS 284 M Shenped 6-11-4 ... W Marston
6 P Tory BOY 45 B) I Whitams 4-11-3 ... R Waldey
7 0 CREENAGGES GODDESS 33 T Weil 5-11-2 ... J Monglard (7)
8 750-TREE MISSON 397 M Pitys 5-11-0 ... A P MCCoy
9 0 JACK REEF 33 D McCon 4-10-13 ... T J Murphy
10 4FD. BLAZEN'S BABY 1937 N Bridgesed 5-10-10 M Griffish (5)
11 0PUP RIBBY BEARI 177 W Bridgesed 5-10-10 M Griffish (5)
11 0PUP RIBBY BEARI 177 W Bridgesed 5-10-10 M Griffish (5)
12 P MISTERY MANN 60 P Bradey 4-10-7 ... Many Lyoni
14 0PUS REAR 177 W Bridges 4-10-7 ... M Neverson (7)
15 CAUG SARATOGAS ASAS 8 H Manners 4-10-8 ... W Worthington

4-5 Rusil, 7-2 Treasure Dome, 7-1 True Vision, 8-1 Sterbadand, 16-1 others

2.30 BROOME HANDICAP CHASE (£3,388; 3m) (12)

1 PZ2- NRIVANA PRINCE 3SS (D.G.) & Pretta 10-11-13 J Mogrard (7) 104
2 5-2P DECYBORG 75 (D.F.G.) M Pine 6-11-12 \_\_\_\_\_\_ A P McCoy 116
3 122P CARLINGORD GALL 24 (D.G.) 1 Genze 8-11-8 K O'Ryan (7) 101
4 -68P DESTINCTIVE 65 (D.G.S.) M Withurson (0-11-6 C. December) 42
5 #753 RED BRANCH 96 (F.G.S.) J King (10-11-1 \_\_\_\_\_ T J Marphy 12
5 #753 RED BRANCH 96 (F.G.S.) J King (10-11-1 \_\_\_\_\_ T J Marphy 119
7 133P LAY IT 08F 11 (D.F.G.S.) J O'Nell 10-10-8 \_\_\_\_\_ C Corner [587]
8 43712 MORR AND MERFLYCR 15 (C.D.) A Hobbs 8-18-5 (W Merston 110-9 290P 9L DWN WKD 25 (R) O'S Serviced 8-18-4 \_\_\_\_\_ J Cobornel 110 PAPP JACK SOURD 5 (D.F.G.S.) N Laws 13-10-9 \_\_\_\_\_ G Torney 11 620U COOLREE 5 (C.F.G.S.) A king 11-10-1 \_\_\_\_ L Cymmies (S) 95
12 PSPP LEGAL ARTIST 63 (C.D.G.) Mest Janesy 8-10-0 \_\_\_\_ G Galagiant 13-4 Moorteel Methods 8.3 (J. N. D. O'S Friedrich (S.G. 6-1) Dectoren 13-2

11-4 Moorland Highlitzer, 9-2 Lay II OB, 5-1 Carlingtond Gala, 6-1 Decyborg, 13-2 Bold Statement, 7-1 Naviena Prince, 14-1 Cookes, 16-1 others.

3.00 RON TRAYLOR PLUMBING NOVICES CHASE

5-2 Circus Star, 7-2 Bessound, 9-2 Charming Gril, 11-2 Northern Deptis, 8-1 others.

TROPHY HANDICAP HURDLE (£3.501: 3m 2l 110yd) (18)

1 1422 LADY OF GORTMERRON 17 H T-Davies 7-11-11 \_\_C Liberalitys 100 2 \_-633 JULTARA 81 (F.G.S) I Williams 10-11-7 \_\_\_\_\_\_ R Wakiny 55 3 5010 BATH HOUSE BDY 36 (G.S) H Daly 6-11-6 \_\_\_ H A Ringerald 91 4 DOUP SUTTERROSE 17 (B.F.E.S) P Exams 9-11-6 \_\_\_ P Spencer 95

3.30 sara hamilton-russell memorial

(£2,788; 2m) (11)

GOING: GOOD

### Bookmakers are 3 put on spot by Levy Board

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE big bookmakers face an historic challenge today over what percentage of betting turnover should be returned to racing after a radical proposal by Rob Hughes, the new chairman of the Horseracing Bet-

ting Levy Board. Hughes will tell the layers that if they make what he and the two other independent directors of the Levy Board, Keith Elliott and John Robb, consider a reasonable offer in the forthcoming levy negotia-tions they will agree to it and force through a deal.

However, if the bookmakers make an offer which Hughes and his colleagues consider unsatisfactory, taking into account their record profits and racing's needs, they will refer it to the Home Secretary for determination and lay the blame at the door of the betting indus-

The dynamic approach to breaching the impasse which exists between the hawks within racing, who are seeking an extra £80 million a year, and those within the betting industry, such as John Brown of William Hill, who wants to give nothing extra, will be presented to the bookmakers in London today.

A video featuring Hughes, who is at Buckingham Palace today to collect a CBE, will be played at the annual general meeting of the Betting Office Licensees' Association. He will tell the bookmakers that, because of the sale of Coral and William Hill, there has never been a time when so much information about the betting industry's business has been available. He has therefore asked Rodney Brack, chief executive of the Levy Board, to

prepare an assessment of the bookmakers' ability to pay and racing's needs, the latter based on the British Horseracing Board's (BHB) Financial

Hughes, Elliott and Robb will then judge whether a levy agreement offer, to be made by the bookmakers in the summer, is "reasonable", Jack Straw, the Home Secretary. has made it clear he does not want to have to determine the levy deal and the political disapproval resulting from his reucatant involvement would

be considerable. Hughes's bold tactic is likely to strengthen the hand of Chris Bell, of Ladbrokes, who is chairman of the Bookmakers' Committee, which formally makes a levy offer. He will be able to bring pressure to bear on the likes of John Brown, whose stance is at odds with mainstream bening

industry thinking, Equally, Peter Savill, chair-man of the BHB and the author of the Financial Plan, may find himself out on a limb as his demands for £80 million are considered unrealistic by some of his colleagues.

Just what Hughes, Elliott and Robb will regard as a "reasonable" offer from bookmakers is hard to determine. However, the return to a companybased levy scheme, plus a percentage from record profits. could prompt a levy offer providing an extra £10-£12 million a year for racing. When this figure was sug-

gested in The Times some months ago, the BHB described it as "totally unacceptable". Time may prove Hughes and his colleagues find it

# reliaing him 15th in the weights, and he is tainly paced at 4-1 with Latitodes. Mr Strong Gally proud all over the Winner in the Great Yorkshire Chase is Demonster that there by the deal of the reliable of the property of the number and was collared chase income by larger Biss. He expected the property past of the property of the p ster in the week, conditions should be back in his layous on At 10-1 with Coral SUPER TACTICS merits each-way subport.

2.20 Oriel Lad 2.50 Weaver George

Marie Land.

A STATE OF THE STA

a great species of the \$1200 Property 27 -

Marie Carlos Principals

3.50 Triple Eaves 4.20 Topothenorthracing

Timekeeper's top rating: 4.50 ANDY'S LAD. Carl Evans: 3.50 Triple Eaves.

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.20 HARRY LANE MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,999: 2m 1f) (14 runners) 109 D-0704 COME AND RIN 54 (Winton Bloossack Lift) MW Extenty 5-10-11 C McCommack (3)
110 - 014800 ERINY 31 (F.S) (Laby Anne Bertlinch J. J. Outen 10-10-7 A Magnetic
111 421206 MY SALTARELLO 47 (5) (T Barnes) M Barnes 5-10-6 S Taylor
112 40-910 DIE GRUE GOLD 31 (5) (R Woodhouse) M Barnes 5-10-6 S Taylor
113 P04-03 CAMADRAM FANTASY 53 (Mrs R Key & Akey V Morth Sin V Ward 5-10-0 R Thombot
114 6P0PPP SON OF TEMPO 56 (Mrs K Lamb) Mrs K Lamb 10-10-0 Miss 8 Lamb

Long handleage Canadian Fantasy 9-7. Son Ol Tenno 8-8. BETTING: 3-1 biyoyand Lady, 6-1 Cobie, Dig For Gold, 13-2 My Salamello, 7-1 Oriel Lad, 10-1 Securiale Phys., Canadian Fantasy, 14-1 oriess. 1998: BERYLLAM 4-11-0 A P McCoy (6-5 to) M Pipe 7 ran

1990: BERYLLIAM 4-11-0 A P McCoy (6-5 to) M Pipe 7 cm.

Secondale Piver beaten a dictance 4th of 5 to Remot in handicap hurde at 48 to Dan De Man se beading a burdle at Newscatie (2m, good to firm). Wywyard Lady 20 8th of 19 to Mousatib Dissers in Innaticap hurdle at Donacatire (2m 4, good), previously 48 2nd of 8 to Dan De Man se beading burdle at Newscatie (2m, good to soft). Cobie 544 4th of 10 bit, Junghywyer in bondicap hurdle at Bardle (2m 16, good to soft), previously hardle at Carle (2m 16, good), previously (2m, good to firm), previously 171 7th of 15 to Robos (2m), previously 171 7th of 15 to Robos (2m), previously 171 7th of 15 to Robos (2m), previously 171 7th of 15 to Soft (2m), proviously 171 7th of 15 to Soft (2m), previously 171 7th of 171 7 VAYRYARD LADY is better at this soid of this then the two and a half rolles she can over fatest.

2.50 ALAN MERRIGAN MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE

BETTWEE: 9-4 Weaver George, 11-4 Brighter Strade, 4-1 Fen Terries, 9-2 Hag's Way, 8-1 Asciller Red, 14-1 Makey, 50-1 Constitutional Blues. 1998: CROSS CAMMON 12-11-10 A Dobbin (5-2) J Wade 5:30

PEN TERRIER Is polentially well tandicapped over lencas and should go class with a clust round

3.20 TATTERSALLS (FRELAND) EBF MARES NOVICES CHASE (QUALIFIER) (£3,769: 2m 5i) (5 runners)

BETTINS: 5-4 Jessotte, 2-1 Sousse, 5-1 Many's Feelings, 6-7 Tiger Paus, 33-1 Drumdons. 1998: OWENS QUEST 8-10-10 A Thernizoe (8-1) T Etheringion 7 rate

1998: OWENS CIDEST 8-10-10 A Intermost (n-1) I consequent 7-sas Describers (71) Intermost (n-1) Intermost (n-1) I consequent 7-sas for a Consent (71) Int. of 15 is biomorphism concern in profile to the consequent 15 int. of 15 in biomorphism concern (2014), good), previously 19 Sty of 11 to 86 Store in minimum concern (2014), good), previously 19 Sty of 11 to 86 Store in minimum concern (2014), good), previously 19 Styre (1014), previously 19 Styre (1014), previously 19 Styre (1014), good in front previously bear fast and party 5 in 6-styre that the third confidence of the concern (2014), good in first, previously bear fast and supplied (2014), good in first, previously bear fast and supplied (2014), good in first, 19 go SOURSE is not the excisis of index but has done little wrong of late and can gain a deserved success

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingüeld Paric 3.40 Burtons Folly, Mischief. Ludlow: 2.00 Tory Boy. 3.30 Renardine Boy. Sedgefield: 2.20 Earp.

RACELINE

SEDGEFIELD 101 201

LUDLOW 102 202 LINGFIELD 103 203 G'HOUNDS 122 222

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

3.50 SOUTH DURHAM MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (£1,605; 2m 5f) (15 runners)



BETTING: 7-2 Daneyeld, 4-1 Muslinga Con, Press To Saloy, 9-2 Hopies Delight, 10-1 Checks Ben, Bucklants College, 12-1 Table Eaves, 16-1 others. 1996: COCKVAWNI LADY 9-11-0 Jet B R Fostsi (2-1 lav) W Halfiday 14 ga

Chester Bon 78i Bin of 11 to Rough Edge in hobits chase at Fakenham

Zim 91 110yd, good), Dande Dorne betten a detapon 9th of 12 to Linte Tusfar in maiden chase at Perth (Zim, good to soft), Desten Calin 46i 4th of 13

10 Dester D'Estrucal in houter chase at Bangor (2014 4) 110yd, good to soft), Eastback H-Light 1 to 22 at of 13

10 Tactic in maiden hunter chase of Carrooti (2014 4) 110yd, good to soft), Eastback H-Light 1 to 22 at of 13

10 Tactic in maiden hunter chase of Carrooti (2014 4) 110yd, good to benty with Daneport (ever) (2014 4), Medinger

Con 53 16th of 22 to Secte The Day in selling handlesp horde at Hantingston (2015 5) 110yd, good). On The Pay

341 10th of 12 to Decide Yourself in review hunde at Kensphor (27th good), previously 2018 the of 17 to Antanian

Invasional hunt Ret most at Kempton (2rtt, good). Previously 2014 4th of 17 to Antanian in section at the section of the Carrootic (2rtt 2), good to soft). Think Exercis beaten a distance Sin of 8 to All On in dryings herde at South
veel (2rm 41 110yd, good to first).

MULLINGAR CON showed his wellbeing when waning a mades point recently

4,20 STANLEY RACING HANDICAP (SHOWCASE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE) (£5,455: 3m 3f 110yd) (15 runners)



Long handkase: Journaly 9-13, Mr Christie 9-10, Rubai 9-8, Simply 9-7, Saucy Hart 9-8, Kinda Groovy 9-8. BETTRIG: 7-4 Januardy, 7-4 Springfield Scally, 8-1 Sterp Command, Mr Mehdio, 10-1 For Cartal, Topothenomical tog, Ruber, 12-1 others. 1998: MASTER OF THE ROCK 9-10-6 E Hustand (12-1) J Marine 7 cm

1996: MASTER OF THE ROCK 9-10-6 E flushend (12-1) J Macke 7 ten

For Carmil 4 Tunt of 5 to Brimber to the tending in Wetherby (2n 7).

Spood to soll, previously 211 3nd of 7 to Bitchele in readicap burdle at Wetherby (2n 7).

Spood to soll, previously 211 3nd of 7 to Bitchele in readicap burdle at Wetherby (2n 11, soll). They 64 5th of 13 to Tap On Toosse in immirate berdle 31 under Carmil 1 10-yd, good) with Cypress Avenus (4th better off) 73-1 5th, Topothenorthracing (7th better off) 137 fluend price off and previously beat the Springfield Scaley (4th better off) 33-1 in Transmission (7th better off) 131 fluend previously beat the Springfield Scaley (4th better off) 33-1 in Transmission (7th better off) 34-1 in Transmission (2th off) at Carmil 1 110-1 of 10 carmin 1 110-1 off) and 1 110-1 off and 1 11

4.50 ALPHAMERIC BETTING DISPLAY SYSTEMS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,513: 2m 1f) (13 numers)



BETTING: 9-4 Moving Argur, 11-4 Rainue, 7-2 Analy's Lad. 4-1 Cadallos, Juliebox. 10-1 Tender Touch. 16-1 Gus Cunelogham, 05-1 The Lambigon Wilcox. Whitegotes Prince, Parlez Mol D'Arnour, 50-1 others.

Andy's Lad 1-v3 2nd of 8 to Cathedral Bette in handscap hundle at Sedge-field (2m 5f 110yd, soft), previously best frompoly 5i in 17-mmer analysis nervice handscap hundle at Wavelet 2m 3f 1-36. Gest Conseingham re-tested in nevice hundle at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, quood), previously 39 7 ht of 10 to last Shyard or confor-bards at Ahmes (2m 110yd, quood to imm). Moving Armev fair handscapes at around a mile on the 15th. Over Sates 57 1 32e of 15 to Rodampour in setting hundle at Catentick (2m, good); Rahmer 38 last of 5 to Torono in nevice hands grade 2 at Wellerby (2m, good is soft), previously 277 5rd of 9 to Sandstan is review hundle at Wellerby (2m, soft) with SSB Misseld (bests) pulsed up. The Lambian Worm 29 12bb of 17 to Pringle Bock in nevice hundle at Catentic (2m, soft) Cadilliac Authority height a creater at 4m of 5 to Optimistic Chru at 4 you nevice hundle at Rotato (2m 110yd, soft), previously 77 2nd of 8 to Dangerman in 4yo novice hundle at Newtastie Chru at 4yo nevice hundle at Rotato (2m 110yd, soft), previously 77 2nd of 8 to Dangerman in 4yo novice hundle at Newtastie (2m 11 good). Perfez Mol (2 Amour 34 5m of 14 to Athrughton in 4yo novice hundle at Musselburgh (2m, good to fam).

LUDLOW

TOPARTICINAS: U PRODUSON, 19 Winners from 53 Infiliers, 35,8%, Mess V Williams, 6 from 17, 35,3%; 6 Balding, 5 from 16, 31,3%, P Nicholes, 10 from 37, 27,0%, M Plpa, 24 from 94, 25 5%, Mrs J Priman, 6 from 28, 21 4%, N Twicking-Davies, 12 from 72, 16,7%; Mess H knight, 9 from 59, 15,3%, I Williams, 5 from 33, 15,2%; A Streeter, 3 from 23, 13,0%. TRAINERS: D Nicholson, 19 winners from 53 lanners, 35.6%, Mass V

ADGGEYS: J Tizzard, 4 womers from 11 rides, 36,4%; A McCoy, 23 tron 78, 29,5%; J Osborne, 8 tron 28, 23,1%; N Williamson, 12 from 58, 20,7%; R Johnson, 22 from 108, 20,4%; M Fitzgerad, 11 from 56, 20,0%; R Far-gard, 4 from 27, 16,07%; D Bertzled, 4 from 33, 12,1%, O Gallagher, 4 from 33, 12,1%, T J Marghy, 5 from 42, 11,5%.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Eccles, 4 winners from 10 runners, 40 8%; Mrs M Revelor, 52 from 217, 24.0%; J Jeflerson, 9 from 36, 23.7%; D Smith, 14 from 68, 20.5%; G M Moore, 16 from 93, 17.2%; F Musphy, 7 from 42, 16.7%; W Stoney, 6 from 37, 16.2%; T Easterby, 8 from 50, 16.1%; B Ellison, 18 from 119, 15.1%; M W Easterby, 3 from 22, 13.6%; Miss K Milligan, 3 from 22, 13.6%.

gas, 3 punt 22, 19578.

JOCKEYS: A Magoire, 8 winners lean 24 dojet, 33 7%; P Nisen, 38 page 153, 24 7%; E Haethaid, 8 Junn 34, 225 7%; A Demyssy, 3 from 15, 20 0%; N Hanethy, 3 from 15, 20 0%; R Guest, 12 from 62, 13 4%; S Lee, 16 from 98, 12,6%; C McCormick, 12 from 70, 17,1%; S Darack, 4 from 24, 16,7%; L Wyer, 13 from 36, 13,5%.

2.10 Banbury. 2.40 Scotland Bay. 3.10 Hawksbill Henry, 3.40 Mischief, 4.10 Sharp Hint, 4.40

2.10 MARCO POLO APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£1,990: 1m 4f) (6 rumners)

6-4 Van Gurp, 11-4 Dancing Rio, 5-1 Metaloza, Banbury, 10-1 Waasel, Respond. 2.40 collimbus claiming stakes (£2,038: 7f) (10)

1 2165 COMPRONTER 6 (CD.F.6.5) 5 Don 10-9-1 ... P. Doc (5) 2 2 5-02 JUBBLES SCHOLAR 21 (B.CD) 6 L. Moore 6-9-1 ... F. Norton 4 3 60-2 20AC 7 (D.F.5) P. Melin 7-9-1 ... A Clark 5 4 2-42 HAWMSRILL HENRY 33 (CD) Mrs A Parrel 5-8-12 T. Sprake 1 5 00-0 TALIB 13 (S) P. Michell 5-8-12 ... R. Cochrane 7 6 00-3 APPROACHABLE 12 R. Polines 4-8-11 ... Martin Deviser 6 7 000- LAMORRA 120 (F) D. Arbuston 5-8-9 ... S. Willington 3

5 B120 WEATHER WISE 33 (D.F.S) W 6 M Turner 7-11-5 . S Wyome 105 6 4541 TAP ON TOOTSE 33 (D.R.S) T Wall 7-11-4 ... B Power 105 7 -135 THE WHITER 59 (6) Shewood 6-11-4 ... ... D Gallagher 104 8 51FH HODOWNNER 55 (D.G.S) W Jerks 10-11-3 ... T Junios - 9 4464 THE GOOD KNIGHT 36 D NICHOLSON 7-11-3 ... R Johnson 80 10 P17P SMOW BOARD 122 (B.CD.B.S) Mrs M Jones 10-11-3 ... R P McCov 78 11 0464 AMERICANVAL 7 (S) 5 Mellor 11-10-12 ... C Webb 102 12 COSS REMANDINE DOV 59 (S) May Primar 6-10-11 Mrs 7 Gibrey (S) 74 13 1515 WHITEBOWNET 21 (B.G.) C Johnson 6-10-11 Mrs 8 Judeson 104 - 032 MISSTER GENEROSITY 21 (G.C. Weston 8-10-5 M Williamson (Jogg 14 - 0-00 ENTERAU 26 6-6) J. Mrs 8-10-5 M. Williamson (Jogg 16 - 0-00 ENTERAU 26 6-6) J. Mrs 8-10-5 M. Williamson (Jogg 17 - 46-0 YER 1 JURBILE 26 J. N. Cressuret 8-10-0 ... Mrs 8 Tearrant 72 17 46-0 YER 1 JURBILE 26 J. N. Cressuret 8-10-0 ... Mrs 8 Tearrant 56 8 PT00 ONE MORE DINE 21 (C.F.) J Hughes 9-10-0 Mrs R Ferrant 56 8 PT00 ONE MORE DINE 21 (C.F.) J Hughes 9-10-0 Mrs R Fortsol (S) 83 4-1 Lady (J Goddmann). 11-2 Tap (In 1000cg. 8-1 The Good Kinghi, McSer Gerstres-

4-1 Lady Of Godenarion, 11-2 Tap On Tootse, 8-1 The Good Knight, Mester Geneross-by, 10-1 Weather Wise, The Whiter, Snow Board, Renarding Boy, 12-1 biless.

4.00 LUDLOW RACEDAY STAFF NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,671: 2m 4f) (16)

NANDICAP CHASE (22,671; 201 41) (16)

1 345 ALBERHARLE 28 (D.F.G.S) H Daly 8-11-10 — A P McCoy 103
2 3311 ROLLCALL 22 SR Alexe 9-11-8 — R Widger (5) [371]
3 1/45 SYMPHONY'S SON 69 (D.G.) D Nicholson 8-11-8 R Johnson 194
4 3243 MACHALIN 281 Recorp 6-11-5 — Whatley 8
5 SUZO SEABROOK LAD 25 (F) C Mollack 8-11-4 — J A McCarthy 105
5 5511 CADDY'S FRST 124 (C.D.G) H How 7-10-10 . R Forestal (5) 104
5 5511 CADDY'S FRST 124 (C.D.G) H How 7-10-10 . R Forestal (5) 104
5 5511 CADDY'S FRST 124 (C.D.G) H How 7-10-10 . R Forestal (5) 104
6 10 FPA JAY EM ESS 8 J Bradley 10-10-8 — C Webb — C Webb — B CP- JAY EM ESS 8 J Bradley 10-10-8 — S Wymno 105
10 /P64 RASHSKIN 28 (G) S Brookstaw 9-10-5 — S Wymno 105
10 /P64 RASHSKIN 28 (G) S Brookstaw 9-10-5 — J Subject 105
11 5-60 MOONLIERTE 8 (C. Alexon 3-10-1 — Y Statiety — J Cauthy 13 2022 SOUTH WEST EXPRESS 22 D Windig 7-110-0 . J Uniford (7) 104
13 3-44 J.B.J. 307 73 (B) A Sheeth 8-10-0 — G Cattlerin (3) 83
15 /D65 COLWALL 15 (7) A Holink 8-10-0 — Sary Lyons — 16 /506 RMOUSIG 47 (G) B Cambring 17-10-0 — Eary Lyons — Eary Lyons — Sarch 8-2 Canons First 7-1 Brilling Rev 8-1 Machalen Storm Time, South 2-1 Robcal, 9-2 Cacoy's First, 7-1 Builder Roy, 8-1 Machahn, Storm Tiger, South firest Europes, 10-1 Septyook Lad, 12-1 others

4.30 ASH NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: \$2,052: 2m) (15) 1 A CHESTION 142 (S) Mess V Wilsams 5-11-10 N Wilsams on S 1 FRNS GOVERNOR 63 (CD, 65 M Plot 7-11-8 A P McCoy 183 B ASMAN 63 B SMR 5-11-3 J C Storme 64 C ARLTON 41 N Indison-Device 5-11-3 J C Storme 64 C ARLTON 41 N Indison-Device 5-11-3 J C Storme 64 C ARLTON 41 N Indison-Device 5-11-3 J C Storme 64 C ARLTON 41 N Indison-Device 5-11-3 J C Storme 64 C ARLTON 41 N Indison-Device 5-11-3 J C Storme 65 RITERIOREAM 38 C Mesni 6-11-3 J Magnet 7 4 J Sentr'S CHARRER 33 Miss Mobel y 6-11-2 D McPleaf (S) 61 8 C Mession 9 102P OPTIMISTIC THINKER 55 (S) T George 5-11-3 N Washing 64 102P OPTIMISTIC THINKER 55 (S) T George 5-11-3 N Washing 64 102P OPTIMISTIC THINKER 55 (S) T George 5-10-12 J Murphy 6-10 D-9 EDWARDS NEEDBROUR 16P M SERUPAR 5-10-12 J Murphy 6-10 LEGAL ROMANCE 130 J Tuck 6-10-12 N R Karanton 64 MCHELE 377F Miss R Windehouse 4-10-2 G F Ryan (3) SPAMSH 6-12 S 1-16 Miss R Windehouse 4-10-2 G F Ryan (3) SPAMSH 6-10 S 1-2 Miss R Windehouse 4-10-2 G F Ryan (3) SPAMSH 6-10 S

15 S20 (MV) VRITACE 47 (D.C.S) M Cosmon 8-11-9 W Worthington 115
2 P-SI BIGSOUND 89 (E) Mess V Williams 7-11-3 ... N Williamson 13
3 UPPS CABALLES & (D.S) Mes A J Bowley 5-11-3 ... I J Murphy
4 24-Q CREADS STAR 25 (D.G.D brothson 6-11-3 ... R Johnson 172235
5 30-F NIGH SALE 7 P Richals 7-11-3 ... R Johnson 172235
6 -452 JACK 63 J That 7-11-3 ... R Belsony
7 205 NORTHERN DRIMES 421 (D.F.G) M Pice 5-11-3 ... R P McCop 9
8 OPPS ROYAL SWEEPS 21 D F Principal 10-11-3 ... D F Proclard 19 OPP SPRITED STATEMENT 75 S Boolector 9-11-3 ... S Wymre 19 5-57 WHITE N FRONT 11 M SA P D ROSE (D. S)
10 SPS WHITE N FRONT 11 M SA PICE 8-11-3 MF P Costello (F) 54
11 P225 CHARMENG GERL 74 (D.G.) O Sterwood 8-10-12 J Oxfores 108 4-6 Fern's Governor, 9-2 in Operation, 5-1 Seamen, 10-1 Jenny's Chairmer, 16-1 Callor, Operation Chairmer, 20-1 Interdiseant, 23-1 others.

5.00 ASH MOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,038: 2m) (15) 

3.40 DERBY RESTAURANT MAIDEN STAKES

8-4 Ropelita, 9-4 Hiberatie, 5-2 Marchiel, 14-1 Burton: Folly, 20-1 others

4.10 HOME STUD "FRAAM" FILLIES HANDICAP

1 SO-0 MYSTICISM SD C British 4-10-0 T Sprake 2
2 405- SUPE TO DREAM 98 (CD) R Philips 5-9-11 A Nichols (5) 1
3 0054 MISS RANANAS 13 CC) C Retient 4-9 S T Carrieri 12
4-110 ANOTHER HIGHTMARE 27 (CDLFS) D Barker 3-9-9 T Williams 6
5 3-03 SHARP HIMT 10 D Nicholls 4-9-3 Airs Greaters 3
6 0359 SCHRIDLUS 1 J I Harris 4-9-5 D Dean Mickenson 8
7 -120 WESTSDE R LYER 14 (D) A Nellewy 3-9-0 P Findericks (5) 5
9 0-30 NOBLE WATER 17 (F) J Britigh 4-8-8 R Bristand (7) 10
10 1-66 ALLSTAR DANCER 4 (B,G) T Nangton 6-8-7 ... P. Dou (3) 7
11 0405 SLARAP HOLLY 10 M Bracisco 7-8-5 Microsa Winder (7) 11
12 2600 MISPRINT 8 (6) E Withester 3-8-5 SC Carson (7) 9

Somp Hand, 6-1 Another Nightmare, 7-1 Vrestsate Riyer, Alistars Cencer 8-1 Miss. Research Scientifica. Health Trans., 10-1 growths.

5-2 Baron De Pichon, 7-2 Thomas Henry, 9-2 Love Diagnonds. Builby, 6-1 offices.

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** 

TRABERS: P Hastam, 26 wombers from 128 numbers, 20,3%; D Norholts, 13 from 64, 20,3%; J Berry, 27 from 138, 19,5%, Mrs A Perred, 5 from 26, 19,2%; M Prescott, 19 from 106, 17,9%, M Berl, 17 from 97, 17,5%, JDCKEYS: Also Gravers, 8 wombers from 34 intes, 23,5%, P Clarke 3 from 13, 23,1%; J Wessen, 88 from 312, 21,6%, N Pottand, 12 from 71, 16,9%, D MeRebown, 27 from 162, 16,7%, R Cachanna, 57 from 362, 16,5%,

4.40 H & S BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP

(3-Y-0: £3,572: 1m) (6)

(£3,022: 1m 4f) (6)

(£2,960: 6f) (12)

### LINGFIELD PARK

Lincoln Dean.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-1M. LOW BEST

1 0023 PRICLES 3 (D.G.S) Miss C Kelleway 5-10 - Dane O'Noil 6
2 0-46 STATISTICIAN 77 (E.C.D.E.S) John Beny 7-9-10 \_ M Calken (5) 5
3 -421 GARNICK WALLEY 13 (F.G.S) J Beny 9-9-9 \_ . G Carter 10
4 930 - DLVA 78 (6) P Makin 4-9-9 \_ . A Clark 7
5 0254 SCOTLAND BAY 19 (CD.S) P Batter 4-9-7 \_ . M Polland (3) 4
6 0-00 FAST (FANC 15 (CD.S) T Raughton 4-9-6 \_ . P Ooc (3) 2
7 (C42 PAGEBOY 5 (C.P.) P Haster 10-9-6 \_ . J Wester 8
8 3063 DARK MENIALE 10 (B.D.F) E Misseler 7-9-4 \_ S Carson (7) 9
9 SCOS (CSTLE ASSEP) JACK 3 (CD.P) P Howing 5-9-3 \_ T Williams 3
10 0-52 SASCEDO 10 (D.F.G.S) J Bridge 9-9-2 \_ . G Bardwell 1 5-2 Garrock Valley, 11-2 Sasseoto, 6-1 Pencles. 7-1 Scotland Bay, 8-1 others.

3.10 m & L SIMMONDS SILVER WEDDING

ANNIVERSARY CLASSIFIED STAKES (£2,097 1m 2i) (7) 2-1 Hawkshill Heavy, 3-1 Cockonier 7-2 Jubilize Scholar, 6-1 Zelec, 7-1 others

RESULTS Fontwell Park

Going: good, good to soit in places 2.00 (2m 6/110)d halle 1, Arctic Comper (N Williamson B-11 tay), 2, Rosay Boy (20-1); 3, Mithel (13-8) 13 ran, 19, 30/Mss Venetia Williams, Tote, £1,70, £1,20, £1,40, £1,10. DF, £9,40. CSF £17,08 2.30 (2m 3i ch) 1. Holdimetose (J Frost, 6-4 tev, Thunderer's nap), 2, Royal Tommy (11-2), 3, Storm Dus (14-1), 12 ran, 8l, 2l, R Frost, Tole, 52 70, 21, 30, £2,00, £3,90 DF £6,20 CSF: £9,99

YESTERDAY'S

3.00 (2m 21 110yd hdlo) 1, Ledy Cricket (A P McCoy. 2-5 tav): 2, Lord of Love (16-1); 3, Tolo Toscato (6-4) 3 ran, 6i, 6i M Pipe Tole: £1.20 DF, £2.10, CSF £4.43.

2.39 (3m 2/ 110yd ch) 1, Selatan (C Llewellyn, 3-1 lan), 2, Shenagore Warnor (9-1) 3, Nazzaro (10-1), 11 ran 14, 20 D Gandolfo Tole £4.80; £2.30, £3.50 £2.30, DF £28.10, CSF, £30.80 Tricasi £234.63

4.00 (2m 6t 110yd hdie) 1, Master Pilgrim (N Williamson, 4.7 fav), 2, Rusty Real (16-1), 3. Eta Agapi Mou (4-1) 7 ran 3l, 16l Miss Vanelia Williams, Tota, £1 50. £1 20, £2 90 DF £6 80 CSF; £10.51. 4.30 (3m 2l 110yd ch) 1, Jocks Cross (N Willemson, 8-11 fav). 2, Denymore Msi (7-4), 3, Top Stopper (40-1), 8 fam 8, 27-4 Mess Venerie Willems, Tote £2 00, £1 60, £1 50, £3 40, DF £2.40 CSF; £2.60.

5.00 (2m 2l 110yd fiel) 1, Lost The Plot (D Galacher, 25-1), 2, Brandy Snap (7-1) 3, Lady Marlow (11-2), Mady Ana (5th) 7-4 fev 17, Ian. 8l, 3l, D Arbuthnot, Tote 523 70, 54,30, 54 00, 52 10 DF, 1237 30, C3F: \$182 22.

Placepot: £5.80. Quadpot: £4.40.

Carlisle

Going: heavy 1.50 (2m 11 hdle) 1. Court Ordeel (Mr R Forestal, 3-1 gi-lev); 2. Ellerteck (3-1 gi-lav), 3. Maazoom (7-1) 10 ran, Nic 61 R Bens Tote £4 50, £70, £1.10, £2.70 DF £5.70, £5.10, £1.10, £2.70

2-20 (2m 41 110yd ch) 1, Charming Admiral (J Supple, 8-1), 2, Bold Action (7-1), 3 Arent We Lucky (7-2) Mr Francipani 5-2 fav 15 ran NR. Major Hams, 3-1, 101 Mrs A Swinbank Tote 19,10, 121 70, 14 80, 11,40 DF: 165 20 CSF 161 92 2.50 (2m 11 hdie) 1, Just Lizzie (N Horrocks, 11-2), 2, Oat Couture (9-1), 3, Valedactory (4-1). Finewood (5th) 3-1 lav 8 ran 1-1, 11, R Noton Tote, 55.30, 51.40, 52.70, 51.20 DF 519.30, CSF 549.56 Transcotted (5th)

tast, £212.81.

Bull (3m 2i ch) 1. The Next Wattz (R Supple, 5-2 law), 2. Better Times Ahead (7-2i, 3. Parsons Boy (9-2), 7 ran, 7i, 2-3 l. Lungo Tote £2.80, £2.10, £1.70 DF: £4.00 CSF, £10.35.

3.50 (2m ch) 1, June's River (Mr A Demp-sey, 5-1), 2, Dovetto (4-1), 3, Sorahan Cross (9-4 Ian), 7 ren. 5t, 51 Mrs M Renn-ley Tote £5 90, £1 60, £2 30 DF £9.80 CSF £21.53

CSF 221.33
4.29 (3m 110yd hdte) 1, Sir Bob (C Mc-Cormack, evens lav, Richard Evans's nap), 2, Stewarts Profe (2-1), 3, Suprems Spice (12-1) 8 ran, NR, Double Buck, Stephen's Brae Datt, 14t, W McKeown, Tota 52 40, 51.10, 51.20, 51.70 DF 52.30 CSF 53.59. Placepot: £92.50.

Quadpot: £14.20. Southwell

Going: standard

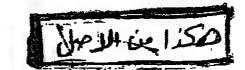
2.10 (1m) 1, The Lest Word (D Sweeney, 5-1); 2, Sharp Rhythm (10-1), 3, Time On My Hends (11-1) Sulhal 4-1 lay, 15 ran 3), '3, R Hollinshead, Tote £6 90; £1.90, £3.40, £5.10 DF, £42.10 CSF £52.02 Theast £506.12

2-40 (Im 4l) 1. Alsahib (Martin Dwyer, 2-1), 2, Moorraking (8-11 lev) 3, Ton-nere (7-1), 7 ran 11-1, 211 W Mark, Tote 53 70; £1 10, £1 20 DF, £1 20, CSF £3.30

23.30 3.10 (7) 1. Kanawa (F Norion 4-1), 2 River Ensign (5-1) 3, Mar Tei (7-2 lavi 8 ran NR- Anta At Dawn 1-14, 6i, A Jones. Tote £1-40, £1-40, £1-90, £1-90, £1-10. DF £11-40, CSF £21-72 Tricast, £68-48 3.40 (61) 1, Ashover Amber (3 Farning, 7-4); 2, Bahaman Pirale (5-4 lav), 3, Dazding Stone (10-1) 6 ran, 5l, 8l T Barton, Tole, 52,70 C1 60, \$1.50 DF £1 70 CSF

4.10 (6)) 1, Bold Aristocrat (P.M. Cunn. 6-4 tav) 2 Little Ibrit (13-2), 3, Awesome Venture (7-1) 8 ran. Hd. 61 R Hollins-head, Toler 52.20; 51 10, 51 90, 51 40, DF: \$12.56, CSF: \$11.82. 4.48 (1m St 1, Colone) Custer (G Bardwell, 11-2), 2, Aldwych Arrow (7-1), 3, Mag-ical Shot (3-1 iav), 14 ran, 11-1

Jackpot: not won (pool of £4,742.38 carried forward to Sedgefield today). Piacepot: £24.10.



# Battersea brings out two sides of Ivanisevic

By Julian Muscat, tennis correspondent

GORAN IVANISEVIC played true to form at the Guardian Direct Cup in London when he mastered Jan Siemerink, of Holland, with a display as contrary as the gales blowing out-side the purpose-built mar-quee in Battersea Park yester-day. The Croatian's mood swayed in harmony with the giant temporary structure as he contemplated which of his characters to indulge.

A study in concentration while he ran away with the opening set. Ivanisevic then regressed into the darker side that prompted a verbal volley from Vim Buitendijk, the tournament director in Rotterdam last week. There, Buitendijk was emphatic: Ivanisevic, a first-round loser, was not worth his appearance fee.

Thus the Croatian stood, one set all and at odds with the world. He gathered himself, eventually, to fight tooth and nail with an opponent whose

Greg Rusedski has dropped one place to No 10 in the world rankings after his semi-final defeat at the AMRO indoor tournament in Rotterdam last week. Krajicek, Holland, moves above the Great Britain No 2. Tim Henman remains at No 7.

perplexed expression mirrored that of his audience. The deciding set was settled on a tie-break, with Ivanisevic ultimately prevailing 6-3, 0-6, 7-6.

Needless to say, Ivanisevic, seeded No 7, had a novel explanation. "It was strange to play in that tent," he said. "It was so noisy and tough to concentrate: not to freak out, like I did in the second set. You start to think about the roof blowing off. This is London, I'm sure they could find a hall to play in instéad of a tent."

Of equal relevance to his unequal performance is that Ivanisevic is woefully short of match practice after withdrawing from the Australian Open with a damaged back. "I am more nervous than, usual and that makes me lose my mind more easily than I should," he

explained.
Yet Ivanisevic, one of the few prepared to reveal his emotions, drove closer to the truth when he said: "There are two people inside me, the one who wants to get nervous and the one who doesn't. The one who does was the stronger one today." Which one will prevail when he plays Hicham Arazi, who yesterday accounted for Bohdan Ulihrach, is anyone's

Lustre has been added to the event by the prospect that Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the top seed and defending champion, could usurp Pete Sampras as the world No I. Kafelnikov, of Russia, would overhaul Sampras by reaching the final, but a semi-final spot would suffice were he to collect sufficient

bonus points en route. Kafelnikov has been fav-oured by the draw. Both Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski are stationed in the bottom half, and cannot encounter Kafelnikov before the final. So. too, is Thomas Enqvist, seeded No 8 and beaten by Kafelnikov in the Australian Open final last month.

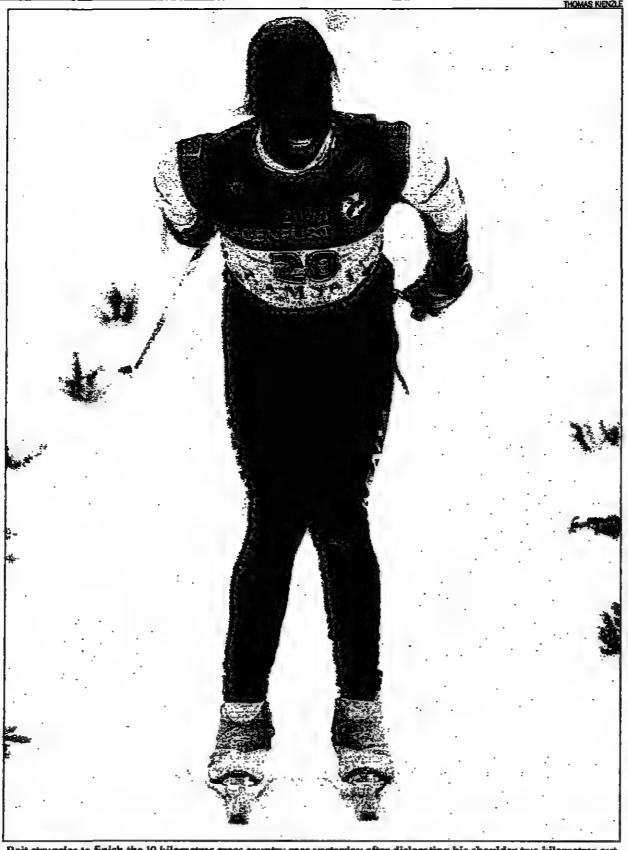
Enqvist, who has lost just two of his 14 matches this year, maintained his impressive march yesterday when routing Marc Rosset, of Switzerland, 6-1, 6-3. His late addition to the cast, by dint of a wild field. Rusedski, for one, will not relish tackling Enqvist in their projected quarter-final. World ranked as high as

No 6 three years ago, Enqvist has returned to full fitness after a spate of injuries. His aggressive baseline game proved too much for Rosset.

"I actually have a good record against Yevgeny," Enqvist said yesterday. "He can be overpowered, and he plays so many tournaments -both singles and doubles that he cannot always be at his best. But I am not surprised that he has a chance to get to No 1. He is probably the best all-round player, he can play on any surface."

What demoralised Enqvist about their Australian Open joust was that he did not play with the gusto of the previous four weeks. "That day I played good but not great," he reflected. "I didn't serve as well, which stopped me from being as aggressive as I would have liked." Enqvist next plays David Prinosil, who disposed

of Andrei Pavel 7-6, 6-3.



1 Hellie Liso

Boit struggles to finish the 10-kilometres cross-country race yesterday after dislocating his shoulder two kilometres out

### Kenyan skier faces uphill battle

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

hilip Boit woke up with a fever, fell and dislocated his shoulder, then finished last in the men's 10-kilometre cross-country race at the Nordic skling world championships in Ramsau, Austria, yesterday. However, it was still a good day for Kenya's lone entrant. He clipped seven minutes off his best time, set at the Winter Olympic Games in Nagano.

"I came here to suffer, to suffer a lot because that is normal for sport. But I didn't think I would suffer this much," Boit said after cross- down a long time, obstructing

ing the finish line in a some skiers. This man came blizzard almost 16 minutes over, I think it was an official. behind the winner. Mika Myllylae, of Finland, with whom Boit sometimes trains.

Boit, who has yet to win a race, knows all about the agony of defeat. He learnt a little more after eight kilometres yesterday, when he dis-located his shoulder. "I fell, my shoulder popped out and I was just screaming, 'Can you come and help me, please,'" Boit said. "I was

had not seen snow until three years ago. But he has fallen in love with the sport, naming his first child Dachlie, after Bjorn Daehlie, the Norway I asked him to null it back cross-country skier. and he did, so I was able to A cousin of the athlete, get up and finish. I was planning to ski my best race

Mike Boit and a former 1,500 metres runner himself, Boit covets a gold medal at the Winter Olympic Games. He has trained seriously since September with the Finns, who have adopted him. "My technique has really im-proved," he said. "My aim is to be champion in three or four years."

**RUGBY UNION** 

# up official protest over Johnson

OFFICIALS from the Scottish Rugby Union were consider-ing last night whether to make a formal protest to their counterparts at Twickenham over the stamping incident involv-ing Martin Johnson and John Leslie during the Five Nations Championship match on Sat-urday. Although Johnson can-not be cited because the referee, David McHugh, showed the England lock a yellow card, Scottish frustration at a system that prevents them from seeking further redress has prompted Murrayfield to investigate whether and how their feelings can best be

One possibility is that a let-ter be sent to the Rugby Football Union (RFU), inviting England to consider holding its own inquiry. However, it is highly unlikely that they would feel moved to take action. Leslie has accepted Johnson's explanation and flew to Japan on Sunday where he has a playing contract with a local club.

Meanwhile, Austin Healey's disciplinary hearing will be heard by the RFU on March 8. Healey has already been banned for three weeks by Leicester for stamping on Kevin Putt, the London Irish scrum half. The club did not believe that sufficient punishment and asked the RFU to take the matter further. If found guilty. Healey faces a 12-week suspension that would rule him out of the remainder of the Five Nations and much of the domestic season. Kevin Yates, the Bath prop, who has also been cited by Wasps for stamping on Paul Volley, is expected to appear before a separate hearing, possibly on March 4.

European Rugby Cup Ltd (ERC) played down reports

that it may relocate to Monaco as part of a peace formula that would secure English participation in the competition next season. A spokesman said he was aware of the proposal, "but we are staying where we are. The tournament goes ahead, with or without Eng-

land, under ERC control." England have insisted they would not return to ERC under its present structure but might now find themselves with little room for manoeuvre. France hold the key and it appears they are now siding with the Celtic nations, having indicated earlier that they would support English de-mands. Further meetings are scheduled this week before ERC meets in Lyons on Saturday morning before the Euro-pean Shield final.

The board of English First-Division Rugby met yesterday but there was no confirmation that it had agreed, albeit reluctantly, to five places in Europe next season — the first four in the Allied Dunbar Premier ship plus the Tetley's Bitter Cup winners.

John Jeavons-Fellows has confirmed that he will not seek re-election as one of the RFU's two International Board (IRB) representatives in June. His decision paves the way for Fran-cis Baron, the chief executive at Twickenham, to take his place alongside Malcolm Phillips as proposed in a recent report by Budge Rogers. Jeav-ons-Fellows, who has spent



five of his 16 years on the union as an IRB representative. said yesterday it was time for a younger man to take over. "I am 60 this year and I have done my time. It will enable me to spend more time with

my grandchildren." Jeavons-Fellows served on numerous committees and considers among his significant achievements putting in place the template for the structure of the domestic leagues in 1985. He also played a significant part in the RFU's unilateral television deal with BSkyB three years ago.

On the playing front, Jeremy Guscott has signed a new one-year deal with Bath while Bedford are hoping to finalise the signings of Alex Codling, the lock forward, from Richmond, and Adrian Olver, of Saracens, on loan.

4. 美国的政策。

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### FOR THE RECORD

**ATHLETICS** LIEVEN, France: Instarnational Indoor meeting: Mierc Stone 1. A Dej (Nepera) 5 61sec; 2. E Nizarcah (Gha) 5 62; 3. B Surn (Can) 5 64, 60m hurdless; 1. D Ross (US) 7 4sec; 2. C Hawkers (US) 7 52; 3. A Garca (Cuba) 7:54 400mc; 1. R Marm (Jam) 46 09sec; 2. S Warso (GB) 46:27; 2. J000mc; 1. H Gebrselasse (Eth) 7 mn 31 27sec; 2. P Block (Ren) 7 42:37 Long jump; 1. I Pedrosa (Cuna) 8 37m. 2. E Weider (US) 8:35 Women: 80m. 1. G Devers (US) 6:02sec; 2. M Ottey Llarnj 6:06 60m hurdless; 1. O Shishigha 9:321 7 82sec; 2. B Bulka (Moz) 1mm; 57:05sec; 2. S Graf (Austria) 1:59:27; 3,000cc; 1. G Szabo (Florn) Breat 3:60 9:ec; 2. V Szaboly (Rom) 8:46:64 High jump; 1. M lagar (Rom) 159m. 2. Y Lyakihova (Russ) 195 Thiple jump; 1. A Hansen (GB) 14 81m. 2. S Kasperkova (C2) 14 77 Polle veudt: 1, Z Szabo (Hun) 4.45m. 2. V Flosadottu (Ice) 4.40

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Sheffield 89 Lon-don 84 Milton keynes 73 Greeter London Leopards 79 Berninghem 102 Worthing 80: Edinburgh 73 Chester 78

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Now York 79 Cheago 63, San Antorio 85 Deirol 64, Washington 86 Beaton 75, Torumio 102 Vancouver 87, Minnesota 102 Sacramento 90, Orlando 109 Houston 83 Indiana 80 New Jersey 79, Seattle 92 LA Lokers 89

EMBA INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (Atheriety Trophy): Semi-finels: Yorkshire to Cambridgeshire 118-115. Herifoxdshire bt Keni 124-116.

2nd, 3rd and 4th

2nd, 3rd and 4ti

ST JOHN'S, Antigue: Tour metch (first day of three): Lunch: Australianc SC-4 v West Incles Board XI
MARELTON, New Zeeland: Tour metch first day of three). South Alncars 407-4 (W J Crong 104, D J Cultinari 100, J N Rhodes 100 not ost, Northern Districts 8-0 SUPERSPORT SERIEB (final day of lour) Johannesburg: Gauterig 422-8 dec and 139. Eastern Province 286 and 127 (C Esteen 5-25). Gauteing with by 148 nutri Rhinebertey: Western Province 334 and 240-6 dec. Grigualand West 191 and 249 (F Brooker 78, MARIA 56 C Henderson 5-57). Western Province with by 134 nurs. Stellenboech: Free State 208 in 287-6 dec (B Brookers 120 not out) Boland 235 and 241 (K Jackson 82) Free State with by 17 nurs.

**FOOTBALL** PAPHOS: Europeen under-16 champion-ship: Cyprus 1 England 2

67, 69, N Price (2m) 67, 71, 67, 68, 224; 5 Hoch 71, 69, 69, 69, R Estes 66, 67, 72, 69 275; M Brooks 68, 71, 70, 66, F Lodder 71, 69, 66, 70, J Kelly 68, 69, 67, 71, R Narlsson (5we) 71, 66, 70, 68, 276; B Gerberge 68, 70, 69, 69, 277; B Fabel 73, 64, 71, 69

HOCKEY

Amended Index

**Linked Account Rates** 

Index Linked Account

Net<sup>†</sup>

3.92%

3.92%

3.83%

**New Rate** 

Gross\*\*

4.90%

4.90%

Britannia

AER\*

4.99%

4.90%

4.90%

£1,000

£1,000

£1,000

ICE HOCKEY SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUÉ: Newcaste 2 Sheffield Steelers 4. Shelfield Steelers 4.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (N-IL). Buffelo 4

Defroit 4 (01), Boston 5 Chicago 3; Dellas 1

Colorado 1 (01), Carolina 4 New York:
Islanders 1. New York Rangers 2 Edmonton
1 (01); Philadelphia 2 Prisburgh 1

RUGBY FIVES BARNES: Oxford v Cambridge: Singles (Oxford names first). P Lord (Bradfield and

FOOTBALL.

UMR of J Richardson (Eastbourne and Caust 15-13 E Proble (Eastbourne and Magdalent) bit M Tseng (St Paut's and Emmanuel) 15-13 T Scot. (St Burstan's and St Peer's) bit T Coller (St Paut's and Tenty) 15-2 M Bate (Eastbourne and Beasenose) bit S Masket (Mathem and Corpus Omstal 15-4

Doubles: Breoks and Smot to Collect and Trang 15-7, 15-4. Brooks and Smot to Massell and Fichardson 15-4. 15-3 Lord and Base of Massell and Financian 15-4. 15-8, Lord and Base to Collect and Trang 15-3, 15-6, Therbrook Sherborns and Wordesten and Jidothanus Tombridge and Meston) bit a Book (KEB and Corpus Chross)

and I De Weyman (Blosham and St John's) 15-9, 15-12: Ambrose and McManus bt J Lee (St Paul's and Care) and J Prox (Bred-field and Fitomäam) 15-5, 15-5, R Evons (Minigh and Somewile) and D Mondx (Rash-ley and Worlder lost to Lee and Price 6-15, 15-13, Octord wie 284-189.

here, but on the weekend I

got sick with a high fever. I

thought I could not ski but

this morning I had some energy, so I did."

ment to see whether Kenyan athletes could transfer their

running skills to skiing. Bolt

Originally part of an experi-

SQUASH

(Holt) wo E Petersen (Den), Semi-finale: Nimmo bit Medik 1-9, 10-9, 9-3, 4-9, 9-3, Naude bit Jelgerana 9-2, 9-0, 9-0, Final: Nimmo bit Neude 5-9, 10-8, 9-2, 9-7.

BATTERSEA PARK Geardian Direct Cupe First round: D Princel (Ger) bt A Pavel (Rom) 7-8, 6-3, H Arazi (Akrr) bt BUS-riach (Cz) 7-5, 6-4, T Ecquist (Sive) bt M Rosset (Swiz) 8-1, 6-3; G Namsewo (Cro) bt J Semetrik (Hot) 6-3, 0-8, 7-6 arthurpusts, St. India

### **TODAY'S FIXTURES**

luck-off 7 30 unless stated "denotes all-ticket FA Cup Fifth round Arsenal v Shelfield (Utd (? 45) Nationwide League Second division

Old Rate

Gross\*\*

5.30%

5.30%

5.18%

Netf

4,24%

Bristol Rovers v Gillingham (7 45) Fulham v Reading (7 45) Lufton v Notts County (7 45) \*\*Northampton v Wolsalf (7 45) Preston v Lincoln (7 45) Third division Auto Windscreens Shield Northern section, quarter-final Rochdale v Haldax (at Halifax FC, 7 45)

AER\*

5.41%

5.30%

5.30%

RAWALPINDI; Men's internetional: Paki-stan 3 India 3 (Pakistan wn 8-7 on pens).

Termients Scotish Cop Circlebank v Curdee URS Scottish League

Alben v Cowdenbeath Ross County's Breches Stenhousemer v Mondase DR MARTENS LEAGUE Pressier divialor: Createy v Doroneter (7-45;
Grandham v Greetey (7-45) Habongs Surfor About 17-45; Habongs Surfor About 17-45; Habongs Surfor About 17-45; Habongs Surfor About 18-45; Habong Surfor About 18-45;
Habong Town v Faher London
Emit and Severders v Doronation Midland division: Beckeron's Pseigens Cendon's Newmont AET. Habong 18-45; June

Third division

UNISOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Puncom v Barrior Bridge Piret division: Draviscen v Great Harrood Procon v Ash-ton United President's Gup; Second round replay: Legh Ptd v Abracham ISTHIMAN LEACUE CUP: Second round: Checham - Darenhern and Red-bridge Third round: Maderhead -

Sough

RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Sanoctoke: Obesham Duhandr v Sr Abaro,
Hampton Vaylesbury (7 45- Subon United
v Marton and Hersham, First divisions
Berhamsted v Huchn Carvey Martin
visioning: Outpic Cry v Molessy, Martin
visioning: Outpic Cry v Molessy, Martin
visioning Visioning v Hungariand, Beclind
T v Victorigam, Handard v Harbor,
Marton v Nicothucod Wiverstor v Mingale
and Frictiley: Crystim Abretic v Arbary,
Dorking v Mare Egipam v Sast Thomack,
Homehardr v Spson and Ewel Tabury of
Ford Utd

ANON: INSURANCE: COMBUNATION

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATIONS First division: Literall v Corchesters (2 0) Plant division: Visional in Corchesters C (1)
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division:
Liverpool is State 1::: \$1 Heers Ruff. 7:0
Notrogham Forest in Manchester Uni (7:6)
Plant division: Committy in Bursley (7:6)
Manchester Chile in Notherhampton (at Hyde
Unit FC 70). Certain is West Bromwork
(7:0). Second division: Rotherham is
Stockert (7:0).

Stockert (7:0).

IRISH LEAGUE: Coce-Cote Langue Cup: Pirst round: Crucaders - Lane. Omagh vill-strev County-fingl: Camer -SCHWEPPES ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: ARNOTT INSURANCE MORTHERM LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: South Shelds a Consell WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Promiter division: Chalham v Hythe, Greenwich y Deal Londswood v Heme Bay: Sheppoy v Indirectional
SCREWRYX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier
divisions: Barristopie v Biotocot Brigoti Monor Farm v Bridgwater Metishem v Bishop Sutton, Paulton R v Mangotsheld Ukd

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MID-LANDS LEAGUE Premier divisions Arie-sey Town & Buckinghum Afrieta: Beacore-lied Spools Passip Manor Bernschwin v Washam Abbey, Hangdon Bonugh v Bash-mgsde: Si Mangaretsbury v Harmgey; Wel-ann Genten of Hoyson Petros Profil CHALLENGE TROUBLY

ayın Gerden v Hoyston
ENDSKLEIGH CHALLENGE TROPHY:
Cuerter-finale: Famborough v Wolang
(7-45), Henford v Morecambo (7-45)
COUFAGE COMBINED COUNTIES
LEAGUE: Prumier divisions Cothon v
Bectoni, Cove v Reaching Town, Famham v
Chipsead, Gosalming and Guidford v
Ash, Wolann Cassale v Mersinam BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Baroton v Star Dudley Town v Bustleholme. Watsall Wood v Darlandon, Woheshampton C + Trifdale

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES

LEAGUE: Premier division: Dtss v Ey:
Harwich and Parkeston v Sudbury Town,
Newmarket v Lowestoft League Cup:
Seeni-finet Sudbury Wanderers v Caston
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First divislots: AFC Newbury v Farehart, Benneronheath v Brockenhurst League Cup: Second roomd, second leg: Werborne v Lymington and New Millon.
UNIVET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE:
First division: Broadbridge Heath v
Burgers Hill
NORTHERM COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE:

BODGESS HAI
NORTHERM COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE:
Premier division: Arnold Town v
Loversedge Ossett Town v Eccleshis Steelloy MW v Osset Aboon, President's Cup:
Semi-fisale: Amthorpe Welders v North
Femby: Garforth Town v Maithy Main. Femby: Gartoff Town v Matthy Main.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE:
Plrat division: Glossop North End v
Newcastle Town, Prescot Caoles v Bootle,
Possendals v Leek CSOS Floodilit
Treptity: Semi-final, second leg: Cuzon
Achton v Kotsprove Adn.

BASS IRISH CUP: Shoth reund: Lurgen
Cetic v Portadown (at Gentoran FC) OTHER SPORT

ICE HOCKEY: Seltonda Superfeegus: Ays Scotlish Eagles v Cardill Dents (7 30). TENNIS: Guardien Dreet Cup (in Batter-sea Parid

### **POOLS FORECAST**

Seturciny, February 27 Coupon no, feture result FA CARLING PREMERSHIP 1 Acton Villa v Covernov 2 Charton v Not m F 3 Chaisea y Unerpool 4 Everion y Wimbledon 5 Man Urd y South pton 6 Streil W y MacSesbro 7 Totariam v Derby 1 8 W Harn v Bacitum 1 RATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

FREST ENVISION

9 Botton v Creve 1

10 Brestons v West Brown 1

11 Bostol C v Igswich 2

12 Gorecby v Barnitiam 3

13 Norwich v Sheff Uid 2

15 SIDCKPAT v OPR X 16 Transmers - Bury 1 17 Workers v Hudd field 1 SECOND DIVISION 18 Bounimb v Wycbe 1 19 Burnley v Galagham 2 20 Chect held v Man Cây 2 1 Colchests v Pendro II 21 Colchester v Reading 22 Lincoln v Bristol R 23 Luton v Blackpool 23 Luton v Backpool 1
24 Macessalot v Wegen 2
25 North gron v Melval 2
26 North Co v Water 2
27 Present v Clotum 1
28 Stoke v Weeters 1
29 York v Fultura 2
29 York v Fultura 2
30 Barnet v Exelut X
31 Barnet v Exelut X
33 Gambige U v Southid 1

The second secon

34 Chester v Cartisle 1 35 Holidax v Hull 3 36 Hartleyl v Rothertern X 37 Mensitch v Sounthorpe X 38 Phymouth v Pelestorn 2 38 Rochtale v Cartif 2 3COTTISH PREMIER 1EAGUE 40 Cesc v Dundee U 1 41 Dundee v St Johnsto X 42 Hearts v Abordeen 1 42 Hearts v Aberdeen. 43 Moth will v Durf mime SCOTTISH LEAGUE 44 Ayr v Hitternican 2 45 Chydeth v G Morton X 46 Rash v Andrie 2 47 St Minen v Hamilton 1

48 Stranger v Falkirk SECOND DIVISION

TYCESUE CHANCE frome learned Charlon, Stockpost, Colchester, Lincoln, Barnet, Bogham, Hartlepoot, Manshad, Dundoe, Crydebank. AWAYS: Sheffeld United, Wigam, Millerd, Walcall, Fulham

HOMES: Asion Villa, Shelifield Wednesday, Tobenham, Bolton, Transmen, Wolves, Stoka, Brendord, Halitar. POCED COOS: Homes: Shelfield Wednesday, Totloriham Tranmere, Wolses, Helfax Averys: Wigan, Miliwak, Walselt Draws: Lincon, Brighton, Dundes.

### This time, it goes back to the keepers. lovermars to score first and the Cup holders to win 2-0: £20 pays £580\*.) ARSENAL' V SHEFF. UTD. 2/9 ARSENAL 9/1 SHEFF. UTD. 4/1 DRAW 5 Arsenal to win by Aseliza 22/1 20/1 28/1 20/1 28/1 Bergikamp 22/1 20/1 28/1 20/1 28/1 Overmars 30/1 28/1 35/1 28/1 35/1 Parlour 66/1 60/1 80/1 60/1 80/1 Adams 75/1 66/1 100/1 66/1 100/1 Vielra 75/1 66/1 100/1 66/1 100/1 Shelf, Utd. to win by \_\_\_\_\_ To Draw 1-0 [2-1 2-0 ] 2-1 2 3 1-1 [2-2-2] 100/1 225/1 175/1 100/1 225/1 175/1 325/1 250/1 150/1 325/1 175/1 325/1 250/1 150/1 325/1 Holdsworth 325/1 550/1 475/1 325/1 550/1 Choose the player who it scure first. Choose the player who it scure first. Choose the first score. Bood luck! Winnings shown include the \$20 you het with deduction paid. Above realest Singles and speareds accepted. Own goals do not count for first player to score. Other prices on request. These prices may late thanged since the newspaper was priced. For the very latest prices, page Lestrobus Taiotest for CHASTA thy Sparts. FOR INSTANT BETTING FREEPHONE 0800 389 2203 Carl from 8.250cm today with your Subschiffedin and Carl Ladbrokes For a bet. Ladbrokes are favourite.

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# Atletico Madrid consider bid for Collymore

ATLETICO MADRID are likely to renew their interest in Stan Collymore, the troubled Aston Villa striker, after a weekend in which they lost their last recognised striker. Fernando Correa broke a leg in the 3-2 defeat away to Real Sociedad and reports in Spain yesterday indicated that Jesus Gil y Gil, the Atletico president, wants to move quickly to sign a replacement.

3 Gil has long admired Collymore, who scored a spectacular goal against Atlético in the second leg of the Uefa Cup quarter-final at Villa Park last season. Although Villa won the match 2-1, they lost the tie on the away-goals rule and Gil was impressed by Collymore's contribution over the two games. When Christian Vieri moved to Lazio last summer, Collymore was on Atiético's shortlist to fill the gap.

A move would suit both

clubs. John Gregory, the Villa manager, has long since tired of the striker who was bought by Brian Little, his predeces-

THE High Court yesterday upheld the Government's deci-

sion to block a bid by Luton

Town to build the most

futuristic stadium in Britain

The ban on the £40 million

multipurpose venue, planned

to have a sliding roof and a

three days after David Kohler

resigned as Luton chairman,

when a petrol bomb and

matches were posted through

The decision of Mr Justice

Dyson leaves the Nationwide

League second-division club fighting for its existence. The

club needs to move from its ..

94-year-old Kenilworth Road

ground, where it is losing

£1.8 million a year. Mr Justice

Dyson rejected accusations

the letterbox of his home.

(John Goodbody writes).

Luton's proposed

stadium blocked

sor, for £7 million from Liverpool in May 1997. Although Collymore has made brief appearances as a substitute in Villa's most recent games against Leeds United and Wimbledon, he has returned to a clinic in London, where he is receiving counselling for stress and clinical depression.

Gregory will mark the first anniversary of his arrival at Villa Park on Thursday and has enjoyed his year in charge - apart from the non-football matters. "I've had to cope with a lot of rubbish." he said yesterday. Collymore's fragile mental state would fall into that category and Gregory would willingly sell him, even for a substantial loss. It is unlikely that another British club would risk signing Collymore but Atlético — and Gil, who is no stranger to contro-versy — would have no such

Gregory also has to sort out the future of lan Taylor, the Villa midfield player, who wants to sign a new long-term

that the refusal of John Pres-

cott, the Secretary of State for

Environment, Transport and

the Regions, to grant plan-ning permission for the 20.000-seater Kohlerdome,

with supporting facilities close to the Mi, was unrea-

The club had been backed

by Luton council and by the

inspector of the public in-

quiry, provided that proposed widening of the MI was

carried out. Last August the

building plans for the motor-

way under its road review. Luton's lawyers argued dur-

ing the hearing last week that

there was an urgent need to

unsafe and inappropriate".

Kenilworth Road.

"inadequate,

summer. Gregory dismissed reports that he wanted to buy Olivier Dacourt, Everton's French midfield player, but admitted that he had a "slight interest" in Alan Stubbs, the Celtic central defender. Liverpool's appeal against the sending-off of Jamie Car-

contract with the club. Taylor

has been told that the matter

will not be discussed until the

ragher, their centre back, in the 1-0 defeat by Charlton Athletic ten days ago has been rejected by the Football Association. Carragher was adjudged by Mike Reed, the referee, to have struck Martin Pringle, the Charlton forward, with his arm. The video was reviewed by

the disciplinary department," an FA spokesman said yesterday. "The decision was that the red card should stand." Carragher will serve a threesuspension that, because of fixture rearrange-

ments, will stretch to 35 days. Portsmouth have been warned by the FA that they will face a heavy fine if they fail to control the crowd during future matches at Fratton Park. Joey Beauchamp, the Oxford United striker, was confronted and shoved in the back by a supporter during the 2-2 draw on December 28. Adrian Titcombe, the FA's head of safety and security, said: "We do not propose to take any action, but the papers will remain on file and behaviour of this sort in future could

the club." Uefa, European football's governing body, has turned down a request from the Football Association of Wales to switch Wales's European championship qualifying tie against Denmark on June 9 from Anfield to Ninian Park because of security fears. Wales played against Italy at Antield in September, losing 2-0, but the Wales players want to return to Ninian Park. where they beat Belarus 3-2 in October, because of its

initimidating atmosphere.

have serious consequences for



Unhappy reign: Guus Hiddink faced the press yesterday when the Real Madrid coach insisted he was not about to resign. Hiddink, who joined the European champions last summer after coaching Holland in the World Cup, has come under pressure as Real Madrid slipped to sixth place in the Spanish league after losing 1-0 at home to Athletic Bilbao on Sunday

TERRY HEILBRON, of Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, will referee the Worthington Cup final between Tottenham Hotspur and Leicester City at Wembley on March 21. He is the first Football League official to be given the final since the old first division became the FA Carling Heilbron, 46, an area manager for a motor company, has taken charge of two play-off finals. Billy McKinlay, the Blackburn Rovers midfield

player, may not play again this season. He is to have an

#### FOOTBALL IN BRIEF

operation today for a groin problem. Stephane Henchoz, the Blackburn defender, is likely to miss the FA Cup replay against Newcastle United tomorrow after twisting a knee on Saturday. Danny Wilson, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, has decided not to retain Reynald Pedros, the France international, after a five-day trial last week. Everton have dropped their appeal on the grounds of mistaken identity against

Dealer East

♥ J1098

4 Q 10785

O 0 5

the booking of Olivier Dacourt, which means the midfield player will be banned from their FA Cup quarter-final. Steve Howard, the Hartlepool United striker,

has joined Northampton in a deal worth £120,000. ■ Taunton Town take on West Country rivals Tiverton Town in the semi-final of the FA Carling Vase. Bedlington Terriers contest the other final place against Thame United. The matches will be

**1096** 

♥ Q652

0 10843

2 D

3 C

4C

4 H

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

This was a hand on which the Cohen team had the luck in

VAK74

Q AJ9

**♣** K92

**4 AK842** 

₩3 ♦ K762

the 1998 Gold Cup final against Gerald Soper's team.

played over two legs on March 13 and 20. side made a winning start to their European championship qualifying group campaign when Matthew Harnshaw, of Sheffield Wednesday, and Jamie McMaster, of Leeds United, scored in the last ten minutes to give them a 2-I win over Cyprus, the hosts, in

Paphos yesterday. Marco Branca, the Middlesbrough forward, has seen a surgeon in Colorado about his injured knee. He is expected to visit a specialist in England this week.

**ATHLETICS** 

### Krzywicki makes a medal her goal

By David Powell ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

AN AFRICAN refugee, a former Wales international footballer and a self-confessed tactical novice were named yes-terday to make their crosscountry debuts for Great Britships in Belfast next month.

They have a hard act to follow. The three newcomers have been selected for the senior women's 8-kilometres race. Last winter, in the corresponding event, Britain won team medals for the first time in ten years. It may be a daunting task for this inexperienced squad to think of medals but Tara Krzywicki is not the sort to worry about whose foot-steps she is following. As a footballer, Tara's

father, Dick Krzywicki, played for Wales and, in 1970, scored the goal against Gordon Banks in the 1-1 draw with England. Tara, too, fancied herself as a footballer and played for Wales as a winger before giving up because she felt she was not - with her English accent -- being accept-

ed by other players.

Today the Krzywickis are a dedicated team. Dad attends daughter's races and supports her in training. On Christmas Day, in the pouring rain, they were out on the steepest hill in Holmfirth, Yorkshire, she on

foot, he in the car. Joining Krzywicki will be Birhan Dagne, whose last appearance in the world championships was for Ethiopia in Durham in 1995. Dagne was granted refugee status after slipping out of team headquarters at dawn on the morning after her race and fleeing to London.

The other newcomer is Angela Mudge, the surprise winner of the trial with a frontrunning effort. It was the only way she knew. "I'm not very good at race tactics," Mudge

WORLD CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPION-SHIPS (Belfast, March 27-28); Great Brit-

CRICKET: BOARD MEETS TO DISCUSS CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP AFTER DISASTROUS TOUR

## Lara's captaincy comes under fire

THE West Indies Cricket Board was deliberating in Antigua last night on whether to take the captaincy away from Brian Lara after the disastrous tour of South Africa during the winter. It began with a dispute over pay and the Test series finished in a 5-0 defeat amid allegations that Lara no longer had the support of his players.

i, street

The strike action that Lara and Carl Hooper, his vice-captain, initiated in London when they were supposed to be on their way to South Africa is likely to be held against him. So, too, apart from their dismal performances, is his own form. Only in the third Test at Durban did he come up with batting of note.

Even Clive Lloyd, the tour manager, and Malcolm Marshall, who went as the coach, were unable to inculcate the discipline that they had always shown as players. There was little evident team spirit and only Courtney Walsh and

Andorra Soldeu Austria Obergurgi

Scil St Anton Canada Lake Louise France Alpe d'Huez Avonaz

Avonaz La Clusaz La Piagne La Tania Les Arcs Tignes Val Thorens

Crans Montana

**SNOW REPORTS** 

100 110 Good Open Powder Snow

100 110 Good Cheer Powder Snow 80 210 Good Cheer Powder Snow 80 210 Good Cheer Powder Snow 110 550 Good Cheer Powder Snow 110 550 Good Cheer Powder Snow 141 168 Good Cheer Powder Snow 155 300 Good Cheer Powder Snow 300 320 Good Cheer Powder Snow 152 265 Good Cheer Powder Snow 158 245 Good Cheer Powder Snow 158 245 Good Cheer Powder Snow 155 245 Good Cheer Powder Snow 150 250 Good Cheer Powder Snow 150 355 Good Cheer Powder Snow 150 355 Good Cheer Powder Snow 150 250 Good Cheer Powder Snow 15

143 175 Good Open Powder Snow 3 222 733 Good Open Varied Fair 3

BY IVO TENNANT

ers, appeared to perform with any pride or effectiveness.

There is a viewpoint that, in what will be an era of transition, Lara would be better off trying to regain his own form rather than continue attempting to cope with the burdens of

Curtly Ambrose, the fast bowl- captaincy as well. Conrad Hunte, a former West Indies vice-captain who has been in charge of developing the game in the townships of South Africa, has a theory that Lara is not seeing the ball as well as he used to do and that his eyesight should be tested.



Collins, the Board XI fast bowler, appeals as Slater waits

22/2

The difficulty that the board has is finding a successor. It could revert to Walsh for the series against Australia, who began their tour of the Caribbean yesterday. Hooper will not be considered for the first Test, starting on March 5, if he does not return in time to play

in a domestic competition. The most likely replacement would seem to be Jimmy Adams, who missed all five Tests in South Africa after slicing his right little finger on the flight to Johannesburg. A mature personality, he might have benefited from not having been a part of such a shambolic tour.

In Antigua the Australians lost wickets cheaply against a West Indies Board XI and were reduced to 52 for four at lunch after a rain-interrupted first session. Having won the toss, they lost Michael Elliott, Justin Langer, Ricky Ponting and Michael Slater, with two wickets falling to Pedro Collins, the fast bowler.

# **SPORT IN BRIEF**

### New faces in final

■ BOWLS: Hertfordshire, who shared the rink honours 3-3 with Kent, reached the final of the women's national inter-county championship by eight shots, thanks mainly to the 29-11 card returned by Joyce Killer's visiting quartet. Yorkshire, with two England skips, Norma Shaw and Beryl Alderson, in their side, defeated Cambridgeshire 118-115. Both teams will be competing in their first final, at Cherwell, on April 11.

TENNUS: Tommy Haas, of Germany, won the first ATP title of his career in Memphis on Sunday when he defeated the former world No 1, Jim Courier, 6-4, 6-1 in the final of the St Jude tournament. It was fourth time lucky for the German, who reached the semi-finals at the Australian Open last month. In his three previous ATP finals he was runner-up. in Auckland last month, and in Lyons in 1997 and 1998.

**ENGRY LEAGUE** Super League matches will be shown in Australia in addition to the rest of Europe in 1999, with a financial spin-off for clubs, it was announced yesterday. Less than a formight after securing a deal to sell the rights of league matches to a French television channel. Super League (Europe) has agreed a two-year deal with Fox Sports for games to be broadcast in Australia.

A HOCKEY: Pakistan beat India 11-10 on sudden-death penalty strokes in the eighth international in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, yesterday. The teams were locked at 3-3 at the end of normal time and no goals were scored in the 15 minutes of extra time. All matches in the series must end with a decisive result. Pakistan lead the nine-match series 6-2.

Pass Pass Pass Pass 4D 4 NT I like North's response of Two Clubs to One Spade -playing five-card majors, he

knows he is going to play in spades, so it is important to find out whether the king of clubs will be of any use. North's later Two Heart bid was "fourth-suit forcing", asking South for more information and establishing a game-forcing sequence. When South supported clubs twice, it was clear that Kxx of clubs was working, certainly justifying North's advance to a small slam. However, since South was by then marked with a 5-1-4-3 shape, the king of hearts was not full value, which is why I think Boris might have stopped in the sound Six

5NT meant over 4NT.) Gordon drew trumps, finessed the jack of diamonds and played off two more diamonds. Then he played off the top clubs and ran his trumps. In the three-card ending dummy had AK7 of hearts and declarer the three of hearts, seven of diamonds, and eight of clubs. West had to keep a club and East a diamond, so neither of them could hold three hearts, and dummy's seven of hearts scored the thirteenth trick. At the other table Soper

and Goldsmith stopped in Four Spades, so Cohen gained 14 IMPs.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend Spades. (I'm not sure what

### WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

LIATRIS a. A thief b. Unrhymed scansion c. A herb

a. A mate b. A microscope c. A measurement

NGARARA. a. A rice stew b. An actor's soliloguy c. A lizard HAPAX LEGOMENON

a. A nonsuch word b. A metre c. An Olympic race Answers on page 50



BY RAYMOND KEENS CHESS CORRESPONDENT

### Adams wins

Michael Adams, of Great Britain, got off to a flying start in the elite tournament at Linares in Spain by defeating Peter Leko, the Hungarian grandmaster, in the first round. Leko employed his fa-vourite, the solid Caro-Kann Defence, but Adams's blitz attack powered through to

Meanwhile, all other games were drawn, which left Adams in the early lead. White: Michael Adams Black: Peter Leko Linares 1999

annihilate the black kingside.

Caro-Kann Defence 2 04 3 Nd2 4 Nxe4 5 Ng3 6 h4 7 Nf3 8 Ne5 9 Bd3 16 8c3 20 Nxh6+ 21 Ng4 22 Qxg4+ 23 Qf5+ 24 Qf6 25 Qh8+

White: Vladimir Kramnik Black: Veselin Topalov Linares 1999 **English Opening** 

NВ Nc3

Be4 Nd5 Nc7 Kg2 Diagram of final position of the Adams victory

Nxd4 Nxd3+

abcdefgh Keene online You can send me your queries, puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be published either here or in the Saturday

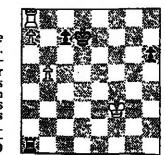
Times Weekend column. Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

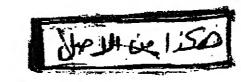
### WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This from the Shirov — Kramnik match. 1998 European club championship. These two contenders for the world title had earlier this year contested a match, which to the surprise of many was won by Shirov. Here he shows this was no isolated triumph. How did White finish this end-game? Solution, page 50

game?





Phil Yates on a resurgent former world snooker champion

# Hungry Hendry still eager to taste further success

illing time between practice sessions at the Welsh Open last month, the conversation turned to wildcard selections for a forthcoming invitation tournament. "At this rate it won't be long until you're relying on them," Mark Williams cheekily quipped to

Stephen Hendry.
Hendry laughed good-naturedly and accepted the joke in the spirit in which it was intended. Even so, the six-times world champion was acutely aware that many believed Wil-liams's observation to be true.

After all, such luminaries as Steve Davis and Jimmy White will compete in the Charity Challenge at Derby this week thanks to a sponsor's call, having been relegated from the elite top eight in the world rankings who are automatically guaranteed a place in the 12-man event.

An inevitable mellowing with age, the shifting perspective caused by marriage and fatherhood, the dilution of desire created by total prizemoney fast approaching £6 million and a "been there.

> 'I lost confidence in myself, pure and simple'

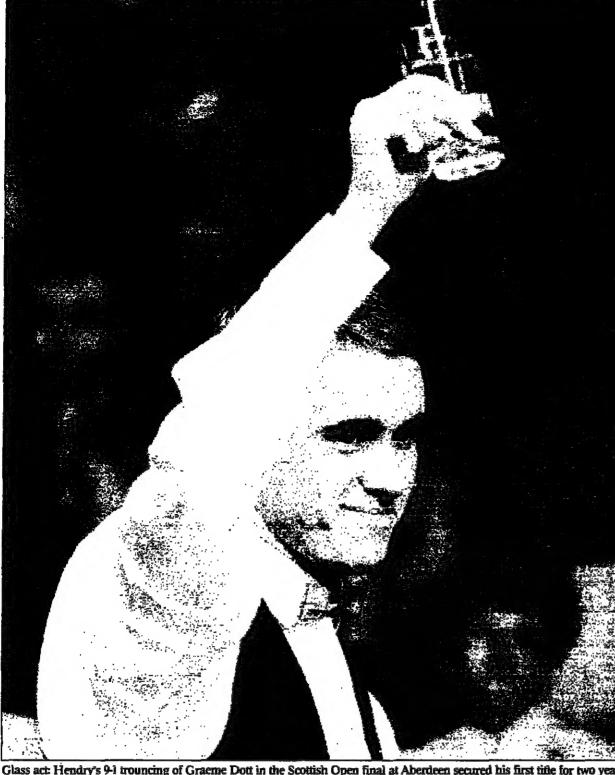
done that," attitude have all been blamed for Hendry's recent decline.

In the two years since the Scot last won a tournament in the United Kingdom, he has been increasingly frustrated, both with an inability to reproduce the form to which he has become accustomed and a growing number of theories

on why he is struggling. Hendry is a devoted husband and a doting father. He is also financially secure and with 68 tournament wins to his credit, he has little to prove. However, those who insist an amalgamation of these factors have led to a moti-

vational drain are incorrect. The worst spell of a professional career that began in many other sportsmen." 1985 ended on Sunday when Hendry trounced Graeme Dott 9-1 in the final of the Scottish Open at Aberdeen. Now his doubters are doubting

their own judgment. You read these things and can't help but be annoyed," Hendry said. "A lot of people don't understand the game and feel they have to give reasons why certain things happen when there aren't any rea-



Glass act: Hendry's 9-1 trouncing of Graeme Dott in the Scottish Open final at Aberdeen secured his first tifle for two years

sons. I lost confidence, pure and simple. It's happened to

So the question has changed. Instead, the snooker cognoscenti are now wondering if the game's pre-eminent force for most of the decade will regain that status entering the new millennium.

Hendry's wealth of achievements, among them the most world ranking titles, the most century breaks and the most maximum breaks in competition, and the most prize-mon-

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ey accumulated, make it difficult to defend those who maintain that he is not the most successful player ever. Yet Hen- · dry himself must surely believe that, while becoming a regular winner again is an attainable goal, the dominance he enjoyed from 1990 to

1990 is impossible to duplicate. Hendry does not stroke in the same high percentage of long pots, but that capability could return. He could also sharpen his safety, a definite Achilles' heel of late. However,

standard of his rivals.

Davis admits that, in most tournaments during the Eighties, he was virtually through to the quarter-finals before a ball was potted. At his peak, Hendry had to deal with greater strength in depth, but not the same overall excellence on display these days. The same school of thought can be applied to golf. Far fewer potential tournament winners teed up in the Fifties and Six-

Hendry is powerless to arrest ties than is the case today, a the general improvement in fact which intensifies Tiger fact which intensifies Tiger

Woods's problems. At least Hendry has experienced again the satisfaction of victory and demonstrated that he still has the stomach for a battle, having recovered from 5-3 adrift to beat John Higgins 6-5 in the semi-finals three days ago.

It will be a long time before the postman in Auchterarder has to deliver any letters to the Hendry household containing a wildcard invitation.

### BOXING

### Dunne's defence given screen test

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

ITV expect viewing figures of at least three million for Colin Dunne's defence of his World Boxing Union lightweight title against Phillip Holiday, of South Africa, at York Hall on Saturday.

Jeff Farmer, the head of ITV Sport, said yesterday that the bout was an important step on the road to bringing boxing back to its network. The bout will be shown at 11.05pm on ITV but the earlier bouts will be screened on ITV2. The aim is not to clash with Match of the Day.

Farmer said that he did not want to split the viewing of the sporting public. But he wanted to gauge viewers' interest to see if they can get back to the days when they had figures of fifteen million with fighters such as Eubank, Benn and Naseem Hamed. "That's why we want to show competitive fights," he said.

It will be Dunne's third defence. He is facing a former International Boxing Federation champion who made six successful defences before losing on points in 1997 to Shane Moseley, of the United States, who is considered one of the leading boxers in the world. Holiday has had only one defeat in 35 contests.

John Hyland, the promoter, said: "All credit to Colin Dunne for taking the fight. Holiday is an extremely good fighter who has come to take his belt. This will give Dunne the right exposure and ITV viewers will get a chance to see

#### WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 49

c) A North American perennial herb of the genus so called, belonging to the family Compositae and bearing clusters or spikes of purple or white flowers. Linnaeus.

(Z) LEXUS

The new IS200

(c) A Japanese unit of length equal to six shaku, equivalent to approximately 71.5 inches (1.82 metres).

(c) A name used for various extinct, unidentified, New Zealand lizards. Also, in New Zealand mythology, a lizard-like monster. The Maori name.

(a) A word or form of which only one instance is recorded in a literature or an author. The Greek means (thing) once said. "She saw herself go through the minutiae of scansion, dialect forms. emendation. haplography, hapax legomena and anascolutha in

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE 1 b6! cxb6: 2 Rh8 Rxa7; 3 Rh7+ and the black rook is lost.

#### TELEVISION CHOICE

### New balls in Battersea

BBC2, 2.10pm, Scotland 3.30pm

International tennis returns to the so-called Battersea Big Top alongside the River Thames in Battersea Park. Britain's Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski headline the Guardian Direct Cup. an event that has also attracted a quartet of grand slam champions including last month's Australian Open winner Yevgeny Kaiehnikov who defends the Battersea title he won here 12 months ago. Meanwhile, the former Wimbledon champions Boris Becker — always a crowd favourite — and Richard Krajicek will be in action along with 1998 Australian champion Petr Korda and big-serving Wimbledon finalist Goran Ivanisevic. One-time French Open ladies champion Sue Barker presents with Barry Davies.

#### Close Up: Who Does Julie Burchill Think She Is? BBC2, 9.30pm

Julie Burchill is one of Britain's most visible journalists, a newspaper columnist for more than 20 years and not quite 40 years old. A formidable physical presence, she punches above her weight in print and has as many admirers as detractors (which is quite a crowd). In recent years she has been as famous for her unconventional private life as for her unabashed issue-bashing. Nikki Hinkman's film allows Burchill free rein to show off her Hove home, her bantering relationship with Peter York and to air ber generally high opinion of herself. It is perhaps fortunate that she did not try to break into radio; her squeaky voice does her no favours.

#### Queer As Folk Channel 4. 10.30pm

Note the transmission time, well after the watershed. This more-serious-than-it first-appears drama series, set in Manchester's "gay village", centres on three gay men: Stuart and Vince, both 29, and Nathan, who is just 15 and still at school. Within a few minutes, Nathan is in bed with Stuart. Even the proposed lower age of consent

Tim Henman lines up against the best in the world at Battersea (BBC2, times vary)

would make this illegal. There are no apologics and very little hand-wringing about it in this eightpart series, written by Russell T. Davies — also responsible for Revelations, a famous late-night responsible for Revelatoris, a fautoris with a series fondly remembered by imsomniacs with a warped sense of humour. This is much better: well cast, beautifully acted and directed (the first four by Charles McDougall. It is also certain to outrage people who do not approve of same-sex relation-ships, promiscuity or people enjoying themselves.

#### Seinfeld/The Larry Sanders Show

BBC2, 11.10pm, 11.35pm

Although it has to be admitted that not everybody responds to the humour of these American shows, it is also shameful that the BBC has not given them prime-time slots which would have enabled them to grow a larger audience. They don't even get a guaranteed weekly showing. Tonight's double bill has a very well sustained storyline in Seinfeld intelligence and the section of the second storyline in Seinfeld intelligence. involving a psychopathic doorman who makes Jer-ry's life hell, plus a wonderful parallel tale of male bras and parental problems for George. Larry (Garry Shandling), later, has Winona Ryder as a guest on his show, which has falling ratings and network heavies on its case.

At the risk of today's previews reading like an attempt to wean you on to the full Radio 2 diet, this is another of the network's programmes that warrants a listen. Mark Kermode's series started with a very good interview with Robert Redford last week and maintains the quality today with our own dear golden boy, Kerneth Branagh. He talks interestingly about the formative years in Belfast and trips to see such films as The Great Escape and The Sound of Music, epics which have clearly influenced his directorial style. But he says that the:

influenced his directorial style. But he says that the principal influence came in his own living room.

His father was away a lot and his mother worked. so young Branagh spent hours watching films on television with his older brother. Peter Barnard

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55

S.00em The World Today 7.06 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Performance 8.20 Off the Shell. Captian Corelli's Mandolin 8.35 Discovery 8.00 World News 9.05 The Mooristone 9.20 Imperation! 9.50 Sports Flound-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Britain Today 10.45 Good Books 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Omnibus 12.00pm World News 12.05 Cutbok 12.45 Sports Flound-Up 1.00 Newshous 2.00 World News 2.05 Discovery 2.30 On Screen 3.00 World News 3.05 Sports Flound-Up 3.15 Westway 3.30 Everywoman 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 Megamix 5.00 Europe Today S.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Flound-Up 6.00 World News 7.05 Discovery 7.30 Human Remains 7.45 Off the Shelf Captian Corell's Mandolin 8.00. Newshour 9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.20 Britain Today 9.30 Mendian Live 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Megamix 11.00 World News 11.35 Outlook 12.00am The World Today 12.30 Discovery 12.55 My Century 1.00 The World Today 1.30 On Screen 2.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.30 World Business Report 9.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 1.00 The World Today 2.00 Sports Round-Up 1.00 The World Today 2.00 Sports Round-Up 1.00 The World Today 2.00 Sports Round-Up 1.00 The World Today 1

CLASSIC FM

The Directors

Happy Birthday Batman Radio 2, 9.00pm

Never mind the millennium and other minor Never mind the millennium and other minor events, lets get down to an anniversary that really matters. This is the year when Batman gets to be old enough to qualify for a bus pass, although if you need to get somewhere in a hurry hitching a lift from the famed cloak would be a better bet than any bus. All sorts of Bat nuts line up for this tribute programme, including the man who spent his entire wedding budget on hiring the Batmobile as a wedding car. There are some similarities between the Batman and Star Wars phenomena, in that both have become international cuits (and multi-billion dollar businesses) even though only a multi-billion dollar businesses) even though only a limited number of television programmes were made: 120 episodes in the case of Batman.

#### RADIO 1 (BBC)

Mark Raddiffe 4.00 Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 5.00 Dave Pearce. Chart hits 8.00 Steve Larracc: The Evarang Session. Session tracks with Stroke 10.00 Digital Update 10.10 John Peel. With a live DJ set by Freddy Fresh 12.00am The

#### RADIO 2 (BBC)

### RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00mm Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast with Julian Worncker and Victoria Derbyshre 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00pm The Midday News with Alian Robb 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive with Peter Alien and Jane Garvey 7.00 News Extra 7.30 The With Peter Alien and Jane Garvey 7.00 News Extra 7.30 The Middle Midd

### TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00pm My Favourite Year 1.00 Anna Raeburn 3.00 Peler Daeley 5.00 The SportZone 7.00 Eubank's People 8.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night

6.30em Chris Evans 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Hamei Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoti 10.00 Mark Forrest 1.00em James Memit 4.30 Richard Allen

6.00am Nick Baley's Easier Breaklast. Soothing music and nitormation updates 8.00 Henry Ketly Includes the Hall of Fame Hour and CD of the Week 12.00pm Lunchtime Requests Jane Markham introduces listeners' levourite pieces of music 2.00 Concerto. Benda (Flute Concerto in Emmor) 3.00 Jame Crick, Includes information updates, Combruous Clessics and Afternoon Romance 6.30 Newsnight. Sport, finance and news updates, with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classos at Seven John Brunning introduces two hours of easy-listening sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. An aft-Eigar programme, includes 19gar (Introduction and Atlegno for strings, Cello Concerto in Emmor) Symphony No 2 in Effett 11.00 Menn at Night, Music and conversation through to the early hours 2.00am Concerto. Another chance to hear Benda (Flute Concerto in Emmor) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths Introduces the Early Breaklast Show

THE BULL

1 20 1 20 2

S. Comment

7 7 Add ...

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THE PARTY AND

6.00am On Air Petroc Trelawny with music and arts news. Including a a review of a new production of Carman by the Northern Ballet Theatre in Leeds 9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday. Liadov (Baba Yaga); Poulenc (Suite Francase); Schubert (Piano Sonata in Airmor, D784); Saint-Saens (Le rouet d'Omphale); Beethoven (Septet in Elfat, Op 20) 10.30 Artist of the Weelc Pascal RiogeC 11.00 Sound Storiess: Planets Richard Baker introduces music representing Mercury 12.00pm Composer of the Weelc Coptand 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchthase Concert Live from Broadcasting House, Belfast, Hugo Wolf Quartet of Vienna. Wolf (Italian Serenade), Webern (Five Movements, Op 5). Braitins (String Quartet No 1 in C minor. Op 51 No 1) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Philhammoric under Yan Pascal Torteler and Rumon Gamba, Tzimon Barto, piano. Tchakovsky (Overture. Romeo and Julist): Rachmaninov (Pano Concert No 2 in C minor): Borodin (In the Steppes of Certral Asia); Shoslakovich (Symphony No 12, The Year 1917) 4.00 Volces with Lan Burnside (r) 4.45 Music Machine with Tommy Pearson 5.00 in Ture Sean Rallerry's guest toright is the leading conductor Nicholas Cleobury 7.00 Performance on 3: Beyond Our Shores (Souding the Century) Live from the Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow The Kronos Quartet. Carlos Paredes, air Goligov (Romance No 1).

Anibal Troilo, arr Golijov (Responso); Aleksandra Vrebalov (Panonia Boundless), Hyo Shin Na (Song of the Beggars); Rezso Seress, arr Golijov (Gloomy Sunday); Terry Riley (Funebre en el Monte Diablo, Requiem for Adam); Franghiz Al-Zadah (Cass) 8.30 Orient and Occident 8.50 Concert, part two. Philip Glass (New work), Schrittke (String Quartet No 2)

9.40 Postscript: Doctors of Philiosophy — Seneca with Alain de Botton (2/5)

Schriftle (String Quarter No 2)

9.40 Postscript: Doctors of Phillosophy — Seneca with Alain de Botton (2/5)

10.00 BSC Concert Orchestra under Cherles Haziewood, Simon Heram, saxophone. Setie, orch Debussy (Gymnopedies), Heath (Moroccan Fanlasy), Salie, orch Desormiere (Trols Morocaux en Forma de Poire)

10.45 Niight Waves Richard Coles reviews the premiere of Fay Weldon's new play, The Four Alice Bakers

11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton presents the second part of the concert by the Bernry Green Quartet

12.00am Composer of the Weelc Dworak (r)

1.00 Through the Niight with Donald Macleod. Includes 1.00 Beethoven (Symphony No 9 in 1) minor, Choral 2.20 Chopin (Four Ballades) 3.00 Schoots: Playtime 3.15 Time to Move 3.25 Let's Make a Story 3.50 Drama Workshop 4.10 in the News Topical Roundup 4.35 Hop, Stop and Jump 4.45 Arms a Bhad 5.00 Museorgsky, arr Rimsky-Korsakov (A Niight on the Bare Mountain) 5.25 Haydin (Symphony No 49) 5.40 Chopin (Scherzo No 1)

### RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today News and issues in rural Britain,
presented by Charlotte Smith
6.00 Today with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Partiament Update on
political developments
9.00 Unrefiable Evidence The mystenes of the legal
system uncovered with the aid of expert guesis
and Cive Anderson

system individuals with the and of expart globals and Chive Anderson

9.30 Home Thoughts Nick Baker looks at Southern Cross a weekly magazine for Britain's Australian community (2/5)

9.45 (LW) Daily Service Director of music lan Tracey

9.45 (FM) Service The Spirit Wrestlers Part Iw

19.00 Women's Hour with Martha Kearney 11.00 Nature Dr Gillian Rice determines the full effects of catterne (r)

11.30 Coming Alive Terry and Sandra face danger and common unhappiness Karl Howman, Phylis Logan and Ben Crowe star

12.00pm (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast ws 12.04 You and Yours Topical

consumer news and investigations, presented by Mark Whattaker and Troop Rawlinson

Mark Whittaker and Troe Rawinson

1.00 The World at One with Nick Carke

1.30 My Mistress Music Dora Jordan (4/5)

2.00 The Archers Broadcast yesterday (r)

2.15 Afternoon Play: The Night House Gillan

Tindal's drama about a newlywed who discovers
a schooligh's journals, unfocking the secrets of
her lovely old nouse Stammy Helen Sheals, Helen
Weaver and John Teller (r)

3.00 The Exchange 0570 000 0445 Edite Mare

3.00 The Euchange 0870 010 0444 Eddie Marr assesses listeners' opinions of a topical issue
3.30 Sate of the Century Stephen Bayley presents the lirst of two programmes looking at creativity in the lucrative world of advertising (r)

3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey narrates part 37 of the history of Britain
4.00 The Learning Curve The Times columnist Libby Purves presents the education guide
4.30 Shop Talk Presented by Heather Payton
5.00 PM with Care English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 Mammon A satirical spin on the world of money and the media, by Nick Hildred, With Jonathan Aris, Mathew Bell, Julian Dutton and Wayne Forester (2/6)

Forester (2/6)
7.00 The Archers Widiam refuses to listen to advice
7.15 Front Row Mark Lewson presents the nightly erts

programme 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern Broadcast earlier as part

of Wornan's Hour (r)

8.00 File on 4 Ficherd Walson questions the accountability of MEPs

8.40 In Touch News for visually impaired people

9.00 Behind the Brain Geoff Walts delives into the

9.00 Benario de Brain Georgiano de Residence
9.30 Umretable Evidence Broadcast earlier (r)
10.00 The World Tonight Presented by Justin Webb
10.45 Book at Bedfilme: Post Captain Patrick
Malahde reads part seven of Patrick O'Brien's
nautical novel (r)
11 On Leas Michit on 4: Angus Deevton's History of

nautical novel (r)

11.00 Late Night on 4: Angus Deayton's History of Alternative Comedy Angus Deayton is joined by Eddie Izzard. Jack Dee, Ricky Grover and Meera Sya' Last in series (4/4)

11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament

11.30 (FM) Talking Pictures Weekly guide to films and him-going, with Brian Shley

12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Sam Packinpah — If it Moves, Kill 'Em Bill Hootkins reads part two of David Weddle's biography of the Jamous film director Ride the High Country

12.49 Shipping Porecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 80.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 196; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 653. 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 646; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053. 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by lan Hughes, Rosemany Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamers.

Time in lalk

in 122m float

- German ba

II Was Clarence



HEES ROUNDLY ne to cut

Three go mad in Essex, know wot I mean? il Listen up. 'Ows about this for an idea for a nights, during which they shove it down, dance a bit. visit the dog-track, and go tenpin bowling. During this stag night, as it 'appens, sumfing goes wrong, which is just as well or we'd be in a drama that was all style and no substance. Oh yeah, we give it a catchy title, like Births, Marriages and Deaths (BBC2) and Bob's jer uncle, Am 1

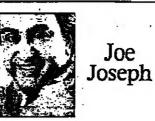
right? Or am 1 right?

It's a little bit Reservoir Dogs, a little bit Blues Brothers, a little bit early Michael Caine, a bit Bob Hoskins in The Long Good Friday and — le'sbe honest — it has just a teensy touch of the Mel Smiths abaht it when Ray makes with his confused or deflated expressions for the camera. All Winstone's lip (and Winstone gets all the natiest lines) comes from the pen of Tony Grounds, smashing bloke, that's right, the one wot wrote Our Boy and Sex And Chocolate, who says that Births, Marriages and Deaths is a "serious comedy". The nimble

darkness, makes it all look as stunning as a cattle prod in a stylised sort of way, wot with the handheld camera weaving in and out like a crochet hook, pulling taut the threads of Grounds's plot.

he wives? All stunners too, especially that Maggie
O'Neill who has to listen to Winstone telling her that his passion for massage parlours doesn't mean he doesn't love her on account of the fact that his like, "never had it with anyone I haven't paid". Grounds captures something of the split personality of many blokes - the difference between the way they behave. among themselves (ie. like mo-rons) and the way they behave when they're with their trouble 'n' strile, and how these two sides of their personality sometimes bleed

REVIEW



into each other with illuminating, sometimes alarming, occasionally

Joe

tragic results. Frankly, it's all pretty unlikely. especially the prank that gets the boys into all the hot water (no, not the hot water in the sauna and massage place, I'm taking about the hot water when they scared their old headmaster to death). But it's also all so slick you could go skating on it. We'll have to wait we've got a right cracker on our 'ands, or whether it turns out to be all mowf and no trousers. We may also have to wait to see

if Mrs Merton and Malcolm (BBCI) shows any signs of a pulse next week before deciding whether to switch off the life-support machine. Watching the first episode of this new comedy series - created by Caroline Aherne, Craig Cash and Henry Normal, the same team that created the wildly funny and innovative Royle Famuly - you feel as if you're the only one not in on the joke: it's like switching on the hotel TV in Budapest, hearing the shricking guffaws on the laughter track of one of their domestic sitcoms, and trying to divine what it is that the natives are finding so hilarious in

this set-up. The success of Mrs Merion as that show host results from the collision between fiction and reality.

because it married a naturalistic setting with surreal flights of conversation, creating a humour that was wince-inducing but also affectionate. When you look at Mrs Merton mollycoddling her 37year-old son Malcolm, the relationship is very possibly sinister - but not convincingly sinister enough to seem interesting or to stop you shouting at the TV: "Oh, for good-

ness sake, get a grip!" can see now that what my life has been missing is a family archaeologist: not many Egyptian remains to look after, but he could catalogue my old school exercise books festering in my par-ents' attic. With the help of his, Lord Porchester staged a Return to the Valley of the Kings for Channel 4's To The Ends Of The Earth. making him the first Carnaryon in three quarters of a century to visit the site of

Tutankhamun's tomb. The Pharaohs, legendarily, put a curse on the 5th Earl of Carnarvon - Lord Porchester's great granddad who died of an infected mosquito bite shortly after he and Howard Carter opened the tomb. Ever since, no Carnarvon has dared meddle with the Pharaohs' hex by revisiting the Valley of the Kings.

But maybe the Pharaohs got tired of waiting and have taken the initiative by inflicting their curse on the family seat of Highelere Castle instead. Adrian Wiley, Highelere's manager, accompanied Lord Porchester on his trip. Sweating for England at the dusty dig-site in his Jermyn Street shirts and silk ties, jingoistically jesting with the locals from under his Panama hat, Wiley trumped the most stereotypical image of the haughty Englishman Abroad. Surely he must be the Pharaohs revenge against the house of Carnarvon, mustn't he?

### BBC1

what? - a Cockney come-

dy/drama/thriller? We nab the

wonderful Ray Winstone, and give

the punters a taste of the goods

straight off by slapping his mush

on to the screen pronto. We give

him a nouveau house in Essex.

and we put im and is East End

mates who he's known since pri-

mary school (Mark Strong, class

actor, England's own Stanley Tucci, only a lot taller obviously, a

bit like an 'uman stork, now you

come to mention it; and that Phil

Davis, who has enough acting wos-sname to look weak) in fat Persol

sunglasses and suits so shiny you

could shave in their reflection. Then? Well, then we hire them a

stretched limo that's so bleedin'

stretched that when its burn is in

the East End its bonnet is already

in Berkshire. We slip Ray and the

boys some shampoo, and we send

em on the muvver of all stag

6.00am Business Breakfast (24743) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (33168) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8612781) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (4028656) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (6183120)

11.00 Change That (6100897) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (6170656) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (1353743) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (48101)

12.30 Wipeout (6265025) 12.55 The Weather Show (T) (48826507) 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (36255) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (47548675) 1.40 Neighbours It's decision time for Karen and loadie (T) (25427830)

2.05 ironside t (r) (3574491) 2.55 Through the Keyhole (r) (T) (5828781) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6741410) 3.45 The Adventures of the Wishing Cheir (2635694) 3.55 Hububb (3775395) 4.10 Chipmunks Go to the Movies (3953120) 4.35 The Really Wild Show (5513675) 5.00 Newsround (2053743) 5.10 Grange Hill (6605385) 5.33 Rewind (T) (996439)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (382946) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (120) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (472) 7.00 Holiday Includes the Algarve in winter,

coastline (T) (1897) 7.30 EastEnders Mary makes a life-changing



Nicola Stephenson stars as the troubled nurse Julie Fitzjohn (8pm)

8.00 Hotby City Julie is forced to reveal he financial situation when her daughter is found at the hospital (T) (9526) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News;

Weather (T) (4588) 9.30 Crimewatch UK Appeals for information about the man who attacked an elderly woman in Coventry, and the murder of a teenage gat in West London (T) (347033) 10.15 Workers at War (T) (584762)

10.50 Inside Story Women talk about the reality of sharing their lives with some of Britain's gangsters (r) (T) (716584) 11.35 Crimewatch UK Update (T) (908781) 11.45 Blindsided (1993) A cop blinded by a sadistic crook during a drugs raid runs into further trouble while recuperating in a Californian Inotel. With Jeff Fahey.

Directed by Tom Donnelly (T) (555014) 1.15am Weather (5163989) 1.20 BBC News 24 (56987540)

WALES

9.30 Week in Week Out (T) (93149) 10.00 ratch UK (T) (123675) 10.45 The Next Files (404120) 10.55 Workers at War (T) (970830) 11.30 Inside Story (r) (T) (113743) 12.15am Crimewatch UK Update (T) (2712366) 12.25 FiLM: Bilindsided (T) 1.55 News and Weather (8237786) 2.00-6.00 BBC News 24 (5623927)

### BBC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show. The Little Polar Bear 7.05 Teletubbles 7.30 Shorks 7.50 Blue Peter 8.20 Taz-Mania 8.40 Folks Dot Shorts 8.50 The Little Polar Bear 9.00 German Globo 9.05 Hallo aus Berlin 9.10 Worlding It Out 9.25 Music Makers 9.45 Numbertime 9.25 Music Makers 9.45 Numbertime 10.00 Teletubbles 10.30 Watch 10.45 Science Zone 11.05 Space Ark 11.15 Megamaths 11.35 Words and Pictures 11.50 D-Mag 12.10pm English Express 12.30 Work-ing Lunch 1.00 Oakle Doke 1.10 Travel Hour

2.10 CROICE International Tennis: The Guardian Direct Cup Sue Barker Introduces coverage of the first round (61619168)

2.40 News; Weather (T) (3971946) 2.45 Westminster (T) (2428588)
3.25 News; Weather (T) (8555746)
3.30 International Tennis: The Guardian Direct Cup Further coverage (878)

4.00 Kaye (6822781) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (6832168) 4.55 Esther (T) (3176149)

5.30 Today's the Day (1) (149) 6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air American comedy with Will Smith (r) (1) (251878) 6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (835965) 7.10 The O Zone The Manic Street Preachers

chat to Jamle Theakston (T) (275878) 7.30 From the Edge (1) (526) 8.00 University Challenge Glasgow v Durham (1) (5859) 8.30 Rick Stein's Seafood Odyssey The chef prepares fried soft shell crabs and

grilled lobsters (8/8) (T) (7694)



A profile of the newspaper lournalist

9.30 CHUCE Close Up The life and career of the controversial journalist Julie Burchill (1) (617994) 10.20 Coming Clean: The Truth About Housework A woman living in a straw house (T) (164439)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (611930) 11.10 SHORCE Seinfeld Kramer designs a bra for men (T) (861491) 11.35 The Larry Sanders Show Larry's popularity takes a nosedive (T) (279656) 11.55 Weather

12.00am Despatch Box (24811) 12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University: Wood, Brass and Baboon Bones 1.00 Gelois' Enduring Legacy 2.00 Schools Special Needs 4.00 Italianissimo 9-12 5.00 Moves — Jobs in Hospitality 5.45 Open University: Edison — The Invention of Invention 6.35 The Last of the Liberties

6.25pm From the Edge (269897) 6.55 Trade Secrets (139651) 7.05 FAW Premier Cup (22820965) 9.30 University Challenge (84491) 10.00 Rick Stein's Seafood Odyssey (8/8) (47472) 11.10 Close Up (T) (877304)

5.30am ITN Morning News (77323) 6.00 GMTV (3060502) 9.25 Trisha (T) (5089507) 10.30 This Morning (1) (11186014) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (7755743) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (91781) 1.00 Shortland Street (21323)

1.30 Home and Away (T) (90052) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous American talk show (T) (5407946) 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (777694) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (1692588)

3.20 HTV News (T) (7000651) 3.25 CITV: Mopatop's Shop (4755584) 3.35 Rosie and Jim (3780217) 3.50 The Wombles (2627675) 4.00 Rupert (6826507) 4.25 Mike and Angelo (3943743) 4.50 How 2 (7237656)

5.10 A Country Practice Kate takes her harassment case further (9845675) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (T) (913965) 5.59 HTV Crimestoppers (960014) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (248304) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (T) (185472) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (587830) 6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (1) (168) 7.00 Emmerdale Kelly and Scott give in to

tempization (7) (R965)

7.30 WEST: West Eye View Report on the effects of last autumn's outbreak of legionnaires' disease in Somerset (192)

7.30 WALES: Fishlock's Wild Tracks

Tracks of Research (7) (192) Tredegar to Blackwood (T) (192)

6.00 The Bill A Ukrainian girl picked up for shoplifting claims she and several other Eastern Europeans have been lorced into prostitution (T) (4694)



Clare (Fiona Gillies) grieves with her young family (9pm)

9.00 Peak Practice Conclusion of a two-part story. As Cardale struggles to come to terms with David's shocking death, a distraught Clare has a showdown with Patricia over the affair (T) (4830) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (7) (74526)

10.30 HTV News and Weather (139304) 10.40 The World at Their Feet The soccer stars of lomorrow (T) (125168)

11.40 WEST: Pleasure Guide Regional

11.40 WALES: Anatomy of Disas: Volcanoes and earthquakes (238491) 12.10am Tales from the Crypt A hard-up hubby unwittingly ruins the 10th enniversary surprise planned for him by a rich friend (r) (6610144)

12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (5215811) 1.10 Highlander Amanda swears to avenge her mentor's murder (r) (8069366) 2.10 Judge Judy (2063637)

2.30 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (79569) 3.00 Dead Meg's Tales (r) (80952908) 3.25 Football Extra (r) (6609786) 4.20 Coach Part two. Howard asks Hayden for a job (39175637) 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (1304811)

#### CENTRAL

As HTV West except 12.20pm-12.30 Central News; Weather (T) (2154675) 1.00 Heart of News; Weather (T) (8154675) 1.00 Heart of the Country (2/18) (1/15) (2/1323) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (1258236) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (T) (776323) 3.20-3.25 Central News (T) (7000651) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (986575) 6.25-7.00 Central News; Weather (T) (185472) 7.30-8.00 Landladies (6/6) (T) (192) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (T) (139304) 11.40-12.45 Renegade (270965) 4.20am Central Jobfinder '99 (T) (4464311) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eve (7063076) Asian Eye (7063076)

### WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except. 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (7755743) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (8162694) 1.00 Emmerdale (I) (T) (21323) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (1258236) 2.15-2.45 Hor Springer Show (1) (1258236) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (1) (778323) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (7000651) 5.08 Birthday People (5930101) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (9845675) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (1) (76472) 7.30-8.00 Wild West Country (T) (192) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (139304) 11.40-12.40 Anatomy of Disaster (238491)

#### MERIDIAN

As HTV West except 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (7755743) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (9845675) 6.00 Meridian 7...lght (1) (1088) 6.30-7.00 Surprise Chets (6/10) (1688) 7.30-8.00 Wildlife SOS (192) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News; Weather (1) (139304) 11.40 Cyber Cafe (923965) 12.10am-12.40 Pier Pressure (1) (6610144) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (1) (93502)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch. (8166410) 12.20-12.30 Anglia. News and Weather (8154675) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (9845675) 5.59 Anglia Weather (T) (980014) 6.00 Anglia News (T) (588) 6.30-7.00 About Anglia (168) 7.30-8.00 Liza's Country (6/6) (192) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (437897) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News and Weather (7) (139304) 11.40 Go Fishing with John Wilson (7) (923965) 12.10am-12.40 Hope and Gloria

### SIC JAMES

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (r) (47219304) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (34753168) 9.00 Ysgolion: Science in Focus (93803033) 9.20 What the Papers Said (43042033) 9.30 Eureka (94871439) 9.45 Addysg Rhyw (94869694) 10.00 The Number Crew (65356033) 10.10 TVM (20297236) 10.25 How We Used to Live (20276743) 10.45 Worlds of Faith (83409859) 11.00 First Edition (95121304) 11.15 Stage One (95144255) 11.30 Powerhouse (I) (40235149) 12.00pm Bewitched (I) (29145762) 12.30 Sesame Street (r) (1) (38790149) 1.00 Planed Plant (1) (34756255) 1.30 The Three Stooges (r) (T) (27370033) 1.50 FILM: Mr Denning Drives North (T) (35202043) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (81688033) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (81607168 4.30 Ricki Lake (T) (81696052) 5.00 Planed Plant (64177743) 5.30 Countdown (T) (81687361) 8.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (54999526) 6.10 Heno (T) (16865033) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (64197507) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (81697781) 8.00 Y Sioe Gelf (T) (64106255) (81697781) 8.00 Y Sioe Gelf (1) (64106255) 8.30 Pengelli (1) (64185762) 9.00 To the Ends of the Earth (1/6) (1) (80614025) 10.00 Brookside (1) (60887472) 10.35 Queer as Folk (1/8) (1) (87271897) 11.15 Boyz Unlimited (1) (29724946) 11.45 Journeys Into the Outside (1/3) (1) (52451410) 12.45am Circus Days, Circus Night (20000250) 1.45 Diwedd 4.00 Ysgolion:

6.00am Sesame Street (40781) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (26878) 9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (4470149) 9.20 What the Papers Said (6724675) 9.30 Eureka (1551878) 9.45 Stop, Look,

Listen (1549033) 10.00 The Number Crew (6085743) 10.10 TVM (9709526) 10.25 How We Used to Live (9788033) 10.45 Worlds of Feith (2567410) 11.00 First Edition IV (8824743) 11.15 Stage One (8847694)

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (1491) 12,00pm Sesame Street (T) (71439) 12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (99323) 1.00 Pet Rescue (T) (13341199)

1.25 The Three Stooges The trio become firemen (r) (94897052) 1.40 Yellow Sky (1949) Western adventure,
FILM outlaw gang plotting to steal a fortune in gold from an old prospector. Directed by William Wellman (T) (25998304)

3.30 Collectors' Let A lan of Fittee singer.

3.30 Collectors' Lot A lan of Fiftees singer Edmund Hockridge (T) (946)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (781) 4.30 Countdown (T) (5507014) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (3161217)

5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (217) 6.00 Dishes Dating show (T) (830) 6.30 Home Improvement (T) (410)

 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (1) (509323)
 7.55 Transition: Lagos Stories The thoughts of Dr Beko Ransome-Kuti, brother of the musician Fela Kuti (T) (407675) 8.00 Brookside (T) (3255)

8.30 Classic British Cars New series exploring cars of the postwar era. Narrated by John Peel (1/8) (2762) 9.00 The Coroner The team investigate the case of a man who apparently committed suicide by chaining himself to a railway line (2/4) (T) (2472) 10.00 Father Ted Dougal is led astray (r) (T)



10.30 CHOICE Queer as Folk New drama about three men living life to the full of Manchester's gay village (1/8) (T) (516746) 11.10 Journeys Into the Outside with Jarvis

Cocker Extraordinary buildings in America (2/3) (T) (826033) 12.15am Indochine (1992) The native adopted daughter of a plantation boss in 1930s Indochina elopes with the French

sailor loved by her mother. Romantic drama, starring Catherine Deneuve Directed by Regis Wargnier (74191347) 3.00 The Hunger Artist Bernard Rudden's acclaimed adaptation of Franz Kafra's short story (r) (6637569)

3.50 Des Hommes Avec Des Bas A gang of bungling kidnappers abduct the wrong man (r) (68631705) 4.00 Schools: Scientific Eye (837250) 5.40 Schools at Work (9809298)

### CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport (6103014) 7.00 WideWorld The transition from primary

to secondary school (ri (T) (6578255) 7.30 Milkshakel (8042269) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (3723781) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (4506255)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (4505526) 9.00 Instant Gardens (r) (T) (1298762) 9.25 Russeti Grant's Postcards (7923033)

9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6676217) 10.20 Sunset Beach Maria drops a bombshell (T) (1676410)

11.10 Leeza (4085033) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (4576014)

12.30 Family Affairs Claire visits Roy in hospital (r) (T): 5 News Update (9528588)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Maggie questions Sheila's motives (T) (6577526) 1.30 The Roseanne Show Entertainment and chat, 5 News Update (9527859) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5773588)

2.30 Good Afternoon (1326168) 3.30 Crash: The Mystery of Flight 1501
(TVM 1990) Cheryl Ladd stars as a
woman who sets out to clear her airline pilot husband of professional negligence. With Doug Sheehan and Jettrey DeMunn Directed by Philip Saville (T) (9303830)

5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T), 5 News Update (7291651) 6.00 100 Per Cent Ouz (6923033)

6.30 Family Affairs Yasmin agrees to come home (T) (6914385) 7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (5777304)

7.30 Champions of Nature The work of Paul Spong, who devotes his time to studying killer whates (T) (6943897) 8.00 Crime Report John Taylor presents a new series of hard-hitting investigations topical issues behind the week's headlines. The first programme tocuses on the deadly leud between the country's motorcycle gangs, and reports on one of

Britain's top suppliers of guns to the underworld (1/6) (5786052)

8.30 What's the Story? New senes of the current affairs magazine Members of the public voice their concerns over the increasingly widespread use of cellular phones, including a woman who claims to have suffered headaches and memory loss which she attributes to her mobile

phone (5772859) 9.00 Johany Mnemonic (1995) Premiere. Keanu Reeves stars as a futuristic courier who attempts to download vital information stored within a microchip implanted in his brain before it kits him unwittingly setting himself up as a target for an evil corporation desperate to get hold of the data for themselves. With Dolph Lundgren and Ice T. Directed by

Robert Longa (T) (99230323) 10.50 Two Angered by her attitude on a TV discussion show, Booth takes Eizabeth Carier captive at her cabin (9824235)

11.45 The Jack Docherty Show With John Peel (7496439) 12.25am Live and Dangerous The all-night sports magazine (11571618) 3.45 Asian Football Show (3960705) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (3305827)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9568144)

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### PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

 For further listings see Saturday's Vision SKY ONE

7.00am Count Duckula (66878) 7.30 The Chirs Evans Brealdast Show (14859) 8.30 Hollywood Squares (86395) 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (12410) 16.00 The Oprah Wintey Show (76897) 11.00 Gushy! (56033) 12.00pm Jenny Jones (34410) 1.00 Med About You (67149) 1.30 Jeoprah (21946) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (34323) 3.00 Jenny Jones (56168) 4.00 Gushyl (5875) 5.00 Star Trek Voyager (5878) 6.00 Amenca's Dumbest Craminals (9052) 6.30 Dream Yearn (9304) 7.00 The Simpsons (5588) 8.00 (6507) 7.30 The Simpsons (5588) 8.00 Rescue Medics (5255) 8.30 Coppers (4782) 9.00 World's Widest Police Videos (68033) 10.00 Greece Uncovered (69120) 11.00 Dream Team (36304) 11.30 Star Trek Yoyager (56269) 12.30mm The Commish (50980) 1.30 Long Play (7220786) SKY BOX OFFICE

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Good Will Hunting (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)
Fainytale: A True Story (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 59)
Picture Parfect (1997)

FILMFOUR

8.00pm Varya on 42nd Street (1994) (8015014) 8.00 Blue Sky (1994) (8005379) 9.40 Cold Feet (2054597) 10.00 Nated (1983) (90076894) 12.25am Detective (1985) (35/1/694) 12.25em Detective (1985) (35/5/63) 2.05 Romper Stomper (1993) (52/36/1) 3.40 Deer Diary (Caro Diario) (1994) (4445/144) 6.00 Cinge

SKY PREMIER

6.00em Redwood Curtain (1995) (38656) 8.00 Rhinestone (1984) (23217) 10.00 3.00 Hittestone (1984) (2227) 10.00 Little Ciris in Pretty Boxes (1997) (24033) 12.00pm The Directors The Films of Arthur Hitler (27120) 1.00 Hollywood Buzz (43168) 2.00 Redwood Curtain (1985) (58014) 4.00 Rhimestone (1984) 0022 (43105) 2.00 repressor Carbon (1995) (58014) 4.00 Rhinestone (1984) (1052) 8.00 Little Ghts in Pretty Books

SKY MOVIEMAX

7.00sm Weskend Reunion (1990) (42830) 9.00 Dogmatic (1996) (45439) 11.00 Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness on the Planet of the Apes (1974) (70507) 1.00pm Phenomenon (1996) (49255) 3.00 Dogmatic (1996) (56205) 5.00 Weekend Reunion (1990) (96762) 7.00 Phenomenon (1995) (86410) 9.00 Before He Wakes (1997) (74052) 11.00 Bed Moon (1996) (748656) rn Reprisal (1997) (801618) 2,60 Block Midwinter (1995) (813540) ne of the Crime (1996) (311637)

4.00pm The House of Fear (1945) (490858) 5.30 Hall of Fame. Jernes Stewart (3958323) 6.00 The Big Knife (1955) (1622217) 8.00 Five Graves to Cabro (1943) (1627762) 10.00 100 Years 100 Movies — The Anti-Heroes (726471) 10.55 MP-A\*S\*H (1970) (3894120) 12.50am O Lucky Men (1973) (72894502) 3.45 Fil Be Seeing You (1941) (91067415)

9.00pm Forbidden Planet (1956) (92750491) 11.90 The Haunting (1963) (7053435) 1.156en Sheft (1971) (89103434) 3.15 Forbidden Planet (1966) (42411908) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 7
7.00am Sports Centre 7.15 V-Max 7.45
Total Sport 2.15 You're On Siry Sports! 9.00
Repring News 9.30 Aerobics 10.00 Football
League Review 11.00 Treathon 12.00pm
Aerobics 12.30 V-Max 1.00 Football
Sports 2.30 Sparish Footbal 4.30 Total
Sport 5.00 Wreating 6.00 Sports Centre
6.30 Inside Scottish Footbal 7.30 Festins
8.00 Live Greyhound Racing 10.00 Sports
Centre 10.15 You're On Siry Sports! 11.00
Inside Scottish Footbal 12.00am Sports
Centre 12.15 You're On Siry Sports! 1.00
Premier Shooler League 3.50 Sports
Centre 3.15 Close
Control Strought 5.20

7.00em Aerobics Cz Style 7.20 Sports Canire 7.45 Racing News 8.15 Molo-Plus

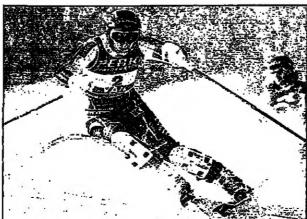
SKY SPORTS 2

8.45 Sports Centre 9.00 Fish TV 10.00 International Bowls 12.00pm Powerboat and Jetski World 12.30 Total Sport 1.00 Watersports World 2.00 Max Power 3.00 and Jessa World 2.00 Max Power 3.00
Triatrilon 4.00 International Bowls 6.00
Spotts Unlimited 7.00 Golf Edita Special
12.00em Sports Unlimited 1.00 Mortor
Racing 10.30 Kniff Line Special
12.00em Sports Unlimited 1.00 Mortor
Racing 3.00 Sports Centre 3.15 Close SKY SPORTS 3 12.00pm World Wrestling Federation: Live Wife 1.00 Fish TV 2.00 Wonderful World of Golf 3.00 A to Z of Motor Sport 3.30 World Motor Sport 6.00 Fish TV 8.00 Premier

Snooker League 10.00 Boxing Superbours 11.00 The Entertainers 11.30 Close EUROSPORT Z-Stem Women's Alpine Siding 8.30 Live Women's Nordic Sking 9.00 Nordic Sking 9.05 Nordic Sking 9.05 Live Nordic Sking 12.30 Live Women's Alpine Sking 3.30 Live Women's Alpine Shing 3.30 Live Women's Alpine Shing 6.15 Footbal Europoals 7.00 Live Five-Side Footbal Europoals 7.00 Live Five-Side Footbal 9.00 Live Bosing 11.00 Women's Alpine Sking 12.00mm Relly 12.30 Close

UK GOLD 7.00am Crossreads 7.90 Neighbours 7.95
EastEnders 8.30 The Bill 8.00 The Bill 9.90 When the Boet Comes in 10.30 Rhoca
11.00 Dates 11.95 Neighbours 12.25pm
EastEnders 1.00 Julie Bravo 2.00 Dates
2.55 The Bill 3.25 The Bill 3.55 EastEnders
4.30 Rhoda 5.00 All Creatures Great and
Small 6.00 Dynasty 7.00 2point4 Children
7.40 Dad's Army 8.20 The Britise Empire
9.00 Red Dwarl 9.40 Chine Traveller 10.45
Bugs 11.50 The Bill 12.20am The Bill 12.50
Rechardier 8 1.25 French and Saunders Bugs 11.50 The Bill 12.20em The Bill 12.50 Stechadder it 1.25 French and Saunders 2.00 Spender 3.00 Shopping with

**GRANADA PLUS** 6.00am Within These Walls 7.00 Bowler 7.30 Doctor at Large 8.00 Beadle's About 8.20 The Many Wives of Pairick 9.00 Classic Coronation Street 9.30 Entimercials Farm 10.00 Upetars, Downstars 11.00 The Gentle Touch 12.00pm Classic Coronation Street 12.30 Emmerdale Farm 1.00 The Many Wates of Patrick 1.30 Pg in the Medie 2.00 Upstars, Downstars 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Saint 5.00 Hart 10 Hert 1.00 Exercises 1.00 Feb. 6.30 Classic



Extensive coverage as the women's World Cup circus moves on to Are in Sweden (Eurosport, 7.30am, 2.30pm, 5.30pm and 11pm)

Coronation Street 9.30 The Comedians 10.00 Jokes Wild 10.30 Sez Les 11.00 **CARLTON SELECT** 

5.00pm What's Cooking? 8.30 Gndlock 6.00 London Bridge 6.30 Get Back 7.00 Boon 8.00 Salionown 8.30 Tuesday Special 9.00 The Upper Hand 8.30 Flying Start 10.00 Peak Practice 11.00 Hill Street Blues 12.00mm Us and Them 12.30 Gnolock 1.00

6.00am Bear in the Big Blue House 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Gummi Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladdin 7.35 101 Dalmartans 8.00 Goof Troop 8.25 Classic Derivations 8.00 Goot Hoop 8.23 Cassair.
Toons 8.65 New Adventures of Winnie the
Pooh 9.00 The Adventures of Spot 9.05
Animal Shell 9.15 Pocket Dragons 9.30
Bear in the Big Blue House 9.55 The
Toolhbrush Family 10.00 Bits 522 10.10
Tots TV 10.30 The Big Garage 19.45 PB
and J Ober 11.00 Sesame Street 12.00pm
The Advences of Son 12 65 Animal Shell

The Adventures of Spot 12.05 Animal Shelf 12.15 Pocket Dragons 12.30 Bear in the

Big Blue House 12.55 The Toolhbrush Farmly 1.00 Big Size 1.10 Tots TV 1.30 The Big Garage 1.45 PB and J Offer 2.00 New Advantures of Winne the Pooh 2.30 Quark Pack: 3.00 The Little Mermert 3.30 Art Attack 4.00 101 Dalmatians 4.30 Hercules The TV Show 5.00 Recess 5.15 Pepper Arv 5.30 Smart Guy 6.00 Teen Angel 6.30 Bo Meels World 7.00 FILM: Honey, W Meels World 7.00 FILM: Honey, We Shrunk Ourselves (1997) 8.15 Dirocaus 8.36 Dirocaus 9.00 Honey (Shrunk the Kids: The TV Show 9.45 Home Improvement 10.15 Mega Move Magic 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.08 Dr Quinn Medione Worlan 12.00am Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6.00am Adventures of Dodo 6.05 Power Rangers Turbo 6.30 Power Rangers Turbo 6.55 Spiderman 7.20 Donkey Kong Country 8.00 Hero Turtles. The Next Mutation 8.25 The Incredible Hulk 8.50 from Man 9.15 Fartiastic Four 9.40 X-Men 10.05 Casper 18.30 One, and the Constructions 10.55. 10.30 Oggy and the Cockroaches 10.55 spaces 11.05 Bobbs's World

11.30 Life with Louis 11.55 Hor

Ventura 1.55 The Incredible Hulk 2.20 for Fox Kids X-Press 3.35 Spidermen 4.00 Goosebumps 4.25 Hero Turtles The Next Mutation 4.50 Casper 5.00 Dennis and Grasher 5.30 Ace Ventura 6.00 Donkey kong Country 5.30 Eek Stravagenza 6 Oggy and the Cockroaches 7.00 Close NICKELODEON 6.00em Rocko's Modern Life 6.30 Bruno the Kid 7.00 CatDog 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 The Wild Thomberrys 8.30 Arthur 9.00 Children's BBC 10.00 Wirmze's House 10.30 Babar 11.00 The Magic School Bus

12.05pm Dennis and Gnasher 12.30 Donkey kong Country 1.00 Mowgir The New Adventures of Jungle Book 1.25 Ace

10.30 Babar 11.00 The Magic School Bus 11.30 PB Beat/Anmal Antics/Family Ness 12.00pm Rugrats 12.30 Blue's Clues 1.00 6ananas in Pygmas 1.30 Little Bear Stories 2.00 Clarigers/King Rofio/Wombles/Bod 2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 3.00 Anthur 4.00 Three Frends and Jerry 4.30 Rugrats 5.00 Sister Sister 5.30 Sabrina the Teenage Witch 6.00 Renford Rejects 8.30 Moesha 7.00 Close BRAVO 8.00pm The A-Team 9.00 LAPD 9.30 Cops 10.00 Men's Magazine 10.30 Eroic Confessors 11.00 Fil.M: Undefeatable (1993) 1.00em Ses Bytes 1.35 Eroic Senes 2.05 Men's Magazine 2.35 Cops 3.05 Fil.M: The Howling (1990) 5.00 LAP.D 5.30 Bushido 6.00 Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Jenny 7.30 Grace Under Fire 8.00 Donkey 9.30 Whose Line is if Anyway? 10.00 Fraser 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Sented 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show 12.00am Late Night with David Letterman 1.00 Tao 1.30 The Critic 2.00 Dr Katz 2.30 Tibs end Fibs 3.00 Nightstend 3.30 Abbot and Costello 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Biocomberg Information Television 8.00 Signings 9.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 10.00 Quartum Leap 11.00 Dark Shadows 11.30 New Afred Highcock 12.00pm The Twilight Zone 12.30 The Twilight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Stories 2.30 Mysteries, Magic and

Miracles 3.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 4.00 The incredible Hull. 5.00 Signifings 6.00 Time Tray 7.00 Cuantum Leap 8.00 V 9.00 Lext 10.00 Fil.Nt: Automatic (1994) 11.40 Sc-Focus Special 12.00em Dark Skies 1.00 Fil.Nt: Scanner Cop II: Volkin's revenge (19: 2.45 So-Focus Special 3.00 The Twile Zone 3.30 Dark S hadows 4.00 Close

HOME & LEISURE 8.00am Today's Gournet 6.30 Grahem Kerr 7.00 Room Service 7.30 The Partied House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Buby Story 8.00 Semply Parting 9.25 The Home and Lesure House 9.30 Potted History 10.00 Real Gardons 10.30 Cookabout with 10.00 Real Gardons 10.30 Cookabout with ferg and Max 11.00 The Deceman 11.30 Fishing Australia 12.00pm Our House Down Under 12.30 Antiques Trail 1.00 Our House 1.30 Homelme 2.00 New Yankee Workshop 2.30 Home Again with Bob Vila 3.00 This Ott House with Steve and Norm 3.30 Go Fishing DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures 4.30 Walker's World 5.00 Wheel Nuts 5.30 Treasure Hunters 8.00 Wildlie SOS 6.30 Predetors 7.30 The Elegant Solution 8.00 Great Escapes 8.30 Out There 9.00
Traiblacers 10.00 Speil of the North 11.00
Shark Pod 12.00 Treasure Everest Mountain of
Dreams 1.00 Treasure Hunters 1.30 Wheel
Nuts 2.00 Close

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm Going Wild with Jett Corwin 12.30 Wild at Heart 1,00 Nature Walch with Julian Petriler 1,30 Crocodile Hunter 2,00 Breed All About It Pomers 2,30 Human/Nature 3.30 Harry's Practice 4.00 Jack Herina's Zoo Life 4.38 Animal Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 5.30 Crocodilo Hunter 6.00 The New Adventures of Black Beauty 6.30 Lassie 7.00 Rediscovery of the World 8.00 Animal Doctor 8.30 Totally Australia 9.30 Emergency Vets 10.00 The Lest Psacioses 10.30 Animal Detectives 11.00 All-Bird TV 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00am Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Resplandent Isle 7.30 Amazon The Generous River 8.00 Man Eaters Man Ealers of India 9.00 Natural Born Killers

Sharks of the Wild Coast

Wolf 10.00 Land of the Tiger 11.00 Ainca 12.00am The Shark Fres

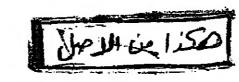
9.00em Food Network Daily 9.30 Coxon's Kitchen College 10.00 The Green Courner 10.30 After and Cooking 11.00 What's Cooking? 11.30 A Sicre of the Action 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30 Loyd's Louisona 1.00 Coxon's Kitchen Louisona 1.00 Coxon's Kitchen Louisona 1.00 Chez Bruno 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 White Nosh 3.30 A Size of the Action 4.00 Tessa's Tastebuds 4.30 Lunch with Ed Baires 5.00 Close LIVING 6.00em Tiny and Crew 6.20 Johnson and Friends 6.30 Greedysaurus and the Gang 6.40 Tiny Tales 6.45 Philbert the Frog 8.50 Polika Dor Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting

4.00pm The Coll War The Most Hallowed Ground 5.00 Trawlers 6.00 Secrets of Sex 7.00 Warhorse, A Beast for Heroes.

**CARLTON FOOD** 

Pola Dor Shoris 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.05 Professor Butble 7.30 Calliou 7.35 Bug Alert 7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barney and Frends 8.25 Babaloos 8.30 Califou 8.35 Tirry and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Carl Cook, Worl Cook, 9.30 The Roseame Show 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show 10.56 Maury Powch 11.40 Brookside 12.10pm Animal Rescue 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Spocal Bathes 1.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Spocal Bathes 1.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Spocal Bathes 1.40 Rescue 910 Ling Room 4.00 Mctael Cole 4.50 Roinds 6.40 Ready, Steady, Cook 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Animal Rescue 8.10 Maury Powch 9.00 PtLM: Murder on the Rio Grande (1993) 11.00 Sex Life Down Under

5.00am Punjabi Folk Songs 5.30 Music Time 6.00 Aap Ni Farmash 6.30 Usha Ultap Show 7.00 Fath Hindu 7.30 Daly News 8.00 Cut and About 8.30 Salaab 9.00 Himalaya's 10.00 Ao Tum Jaa Salde Ho 11.00 Khana Khazana 11.30 Parampara 12.00pm FR.M 3.00 Zee Bangla 3.30 Che Megic 4.00 Akbar Barbat 4.30 Zee Top 10 5.30 Aashinwad 6.00 1-10 8.30 Humm Tara Rum 7.00 Jee Salhab 7.30 Chalo Cinema 8.00 News 8.30 Daraar 8.00 DG Aur Do Pasanch 8.30 Zanjeeren 10.00 Hadd Ker Dr 10.30 Mahabharat 11.30 Hadd Kar Dr. 10.30 Mahabharar 11.30 Yaadon Ke Rang 12.00am News 12.30 Pakasan Busmess Week 1.00 Zee Bangla 1.30 Raahai 2.00 FILM 4.30 Letty-Pop





TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23 1999

Fifa allow Cup game to go ahead

# Arsenal given approval to restage tie

AS THE Sheffield United team coach pulled out of Bramall Lane at 1pm yesterday, nobody knew whether or not they had a game to go to. Not the Football Association. who originally sanctioned the rematch of their FA Cup fifth-round tie against Arsenal this evening; not Fifa, world football's governing body, which had initially and swiftly rubberstamped the FA's decision: and certainly not the players, officials and supporters of

Fifa's emergency committee was meeting in Zurich to ratify the endorsement of Sepp Blat-ter, the Fifa president, who had welcomed the offer of Arsenal to restage the match they had won 2-1 on February 13. Blaner, a champion of fair play, had called it a "wonderful gesture" and given it his immediate blessing. The internal politics of Fifa then took over, placing the tie in jeopardy. It was only after much soulsearching, and at 7.30pm last night, that Fifa finally gave the "I'm pleased rather than re-

lieved," David Davies, the FA's acting chief executive. said. We expected this deci-sion. Fifa had made it clear that they not only approved of what we had done, but they praised us for doing it.
"All they wanted was clarifi-

cation of which rule of the competition we had taken into account and we provided them with that. As far as we are connity for Fifa to show that their the commitment to fair play means something in practice. We, Arsenal and Sheffield United have already shown

Tony Adams, the Arsenal captain, said that the players would not have lived with themselves if they had not given United another chance.

**ACROSS** 

"There's no way I could have lifted the trophy in May, having not replayed this game. We want it to be played. We think it's fair that we start

again," he said.
At the weekend, Fifa's attitude appeared to have changed. At a meeting of the International Board, the game's law-makers, in Cardiff, Michael Zen-Ruffinen. Fifa's general secretary, said: "What we have to consider is whether the rules of the competition have been adhered to. If we have to take a decision that

Wenger: offered rematch

is unpopular, we have to do

The debate in Zurich yesterday began in the afternoon, lasted into the evening and involved much heated discussion between many of Fifa's most senior figures. It is believed that several of them were not pleased by Blatter's unilateral decision that the game could be restaged at Highbury, and that they should at least have been

consulted. Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, and prime mover in the offer to play again, even

hinted that his club, the Cup holders, might consider with-drawing if Fifa had ruled that the original result should stand. "It would leave us in a difficult situation," he said. "We could drop out of the competition or go on and play. No matter what we did, it would be the worst we find.

would be the wrong thing. "If we played on, we would always feel we did not win properly. We could go out of the cup without losing a game but it would also be difficult for us to play on.

"I'm surprised by Fifa's ac-tions. At first it looked all right because Sepp Blatter came out and congratulated the club. Maybe someone who is responsible for respect of the rules suddenly discovered there is no reason to replay the game. Twenry-four hours before the game is not the best way for this to happen." Ken Friar, the Arsenal man-aging director, said: "We are

enormously disappointed that Fifa should cast a shadow of doubt over the game. Apart from unsettling both teams' pre-match preparations, both sets of supporters have aiready purchased their tickets and are looking forward to it. It is unreasonable to play on their emotions in this way."

United officials were left similarly helpless, having sold 4,000 tickets to a match that they were not sure would go ahead. The FA gave permission for the game and both us and Arsenal intend to play," W0002, UI tive director, said. "We believe that good sense will prevail for all parties and for the good of football."

Steve Bruce, the Sheffield United manager, said: "The lads are still bubbling and looking forward to it. I would have thought that any intervention by Fifa would have come a lot sooner."

Bruce was incensed when Marc Overmars scored the winning goal in the first game, after Nwankwo Kanu had taken advantage of a throw-in from Ray Parlour. The ball should have been returned to United after Alan Kelly, their goalkeeper, had kicked it into touch so that Lee Morris, his team-mate, could receive treatment for an injury.

Although it is an unwritten code of conduct throughout the world. Kanu was apparently unaware of the reason why Kelly had kicked the ball out Overmars also later claimed innocence but Wenger, in con-junction with David Dein, the Arsenal vice-chairman, quickly offered a rematch. The FA had agreed it within an hour of the end of the game. United had played well and. at 1-1. appeared capable of forcing a replay at Bramall Lane - until the controversial goal. They might find it a different propo-



Enqvist hits a forehand during his defeat of Rosset on the opening day at Battersea Park

### sition second time around. Howey dispels Newcastle fears

BY STEPHEN WOOD

ferent game, which included

gifting the home side their opening goal and then nar-

rowly escaping being sent off

after a challenge on Jamie

Howey: keen to stay

150+-gallon (wine, beer) cask I Barbara -, abstract sculptor 5 Zenda author; a Christian vir-2 Bird: a servicewoman (4) 3 Non-stop (5,3,5) tue (4) 7 In regularly returning way 4 Oh no! A (boring, painful) repeat! (4,2,2,5) 5 True, upright (6) 8 Extend across (4) 6 Calm stolidity: a body hu-9 Still surviving (6) 10 Bury (6) 13 Ugly witch (3) mour (6) 7 Roof beam (6)

Il Malvolio courts her 14 Deduce, draw (from source) (6) a 17 A wind player (6) Night) (6) 13 Rental (4) 12 To flatter (6.2) 15 Exhausted, decadent (6) 20 Immediately following (4) 16 Untouched (6) 21 Royalty (8) 18 Make disapproving noise (4)

No 1648

# SOLUTION TO NO 1647 ACROSS: 1 Flower 5 Baffle 8 Deli 9 Bushbaby 10 Stately 11 Libva 13 Superintend 16 Still 18 Faience 21 Coercion 22 Ural 23 Gnomic 24 Dreamy DOWN: 2 Laertes 3 Waist 4 Ribaldry 5 Base 6 Febrile 7 Lobby 12 Unmanned 14 Pilgrim 15 Declaim 17 Thorn 19 Etude 20 Disc

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tle United defender, appeared to curtail speculation over his future yesterday, when he agreed to sign a contract that will keep him at St James' Park until 2003. The improved deal could also see Howey treble his weekly wage. Howey, 27, has put a number of injury-ravaged seasons behind him to establish himself as an integral member of the club under Ruud Gullit, the Newcastie manager.

STEVE HOWEY, the Newcas

However, negotiations over a new deal slowed in recent weeks, prompting other clubs to show a interest in the former England defender. Sunderland, of the Nationwide League first division, were believed to be considering an attempt to take Howey back to his home town, while Liverpool also saw Howey as an answer to their long-standing defensive frailties.

Howey, though, main-tained that he wanted to stay at Newcastle, the club where he has spent his entire career. Freddie Shepherd, the Newcastle chairman, put a final

Beattle, the Southampton' offer in front of Howey yesterstriker. "I cannot ever rement day, a deal that is expected to earn him around £18,000 a ber dropping a clanger like I did for their first goal," Howey said. "But there's week. Howev was a member of the Newcastle side that lost 2-1 at Southampton on Saturnothing you can do about it day, where he had a rare indifonce it's done. You just have

to keep concentrating." Gary Speed, the Newcastle midfield player, has been given a one-match suspension after picking up his fifth booking of the season against

if Newcastle overcome Blackburn Rovers in the FA Cup fifth-round replay tomorrow night, Speed will miss the quarter-final tie against Everton. However. Silvio Maric. Newcastle's new signing from Croatia Zagreb, will be available for that match if his work permit come through as exnected.

Jaap Stam, the Manchester United defender, is expected to be fit for the European Cup quarter-final first-leg match against Internazionale tomorrow week.

Stam was substituted at half-time in the FA Carling

Premiership match against Coventry City with a ham-string strain. We'll see how he is at the weekend, but we will not be taking any chances," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said. Stam will miss United's FA Cup quarter-final tie with Chelsea as he is serv-ing a one-match suspension.

Stam collected his fifth booking of the season at Coventry. Chelsea, however, will be without Vialli. Wise. Leboenf and Babayaro for the match at Old Trafford.

Steve Lomas, the West Ham United midfield player. has indicated his desire to remain at Upton Park, despite the interest shown in him by Blackburn Rovers.

"I bave just bought a house in London and I'm very happy playing for West Ham. so there is no reason for me to leave," Lomas said. Nevertheiess, the Northern Ireland international recognised that West Ham may yet accept a bid from Blackburn, who are persevering in their quest to

Collymore move, page 49

## Richardson's reluctance causes split with Lloyd

By Julian Muscat, tennis correspondent

AN uncomfortable split has developed between David Lloyd, the Great Britain Davis Cup captain, and Andrew Richardson, who, it emerged yesterday, declined a wildcard entry to the Guardian Direct Cup in London. Lloyd was "very disappointed" that Richardson, a former British No 3, turned down the chance to gain valuable singles experi-ence ahead of Britain's tie with the United States in April. The team captain was anxious to prime Richardson as cover against injury to Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski.

The latter pair are automatic selections but their unavailability would dent aspirations for the first round in the world group, to which Britain gained promotion last year. However, Richardson, who is playing his way back from a slump in form and a crisis of confi-dence, maintained that he did not merit a place in the £500,000 tournament, which opened at Battersea Park

People are frankly kidding themselves if they thought I could go in there this week and beat a couple of worldclass opponents," Richardson said yesterday. "It was a total shock to be offered a wild card. I just did not feel comfortable taking it." All credit to Richardson,

whose world ranking has plummeted to No 444 from a career-high No 132 two years ago. A Bisham Abbey graduate, he abandoned the game after Wimbledon, when disillusionment overwhelmed him, before returning in secondgrade events towards the end tinued in that sphere, mostly playing doubles, with limited For all that, Lloyd cannot

dismiss from memory Richardson's defeat of Byron Black in the Davis Cup defeat by Zimbabwe more than two years ago. Both Henman and Rusedski were injured for the tie. which Britain lost 4-1. Lloyd was thus anxious to keep the Richardson option open for the tie between the two nations

ment to me," he said. "It worries me that he doesn't want to play against world-class opposition." His argument — that he doesn't deserve a wild car? — is a good one, but then, which British player does? None at all, according to the event's organisers. The three wild cards, usually given to lesser players of the nation staging an ATP Tour tournament, were dispensed else-

"At least Andrew is being honest," Jeremy Dier, the tournament promoter, said. There are loss who would have turned up, taken the money and run." Last year Richardson and Martin Lee received wild cards, while Wilkinson, whose ranking of No 182 makes him the British No 3, came through the qualifying tournament. One wild card was offered to the Lawn Tennis Association for a British player of their choice

However, in a refreshing departure from begging-bowl?

Ivanisevic survives.

mentality, the association declined and asked for an extra wild card for the qualifying competition. Of the four Britons nominated. Lee. David Sherwood and Simon Dickson lost their first match, while Wilkinson lost in round two.

This poor level of performance, coupled with Lloyd's appeal to Richardson, underlines just how barren is British talent below Henman and Greg keep going up, there is no doubt that the standard is oing downhill very quickly, Lloyd said. The gap is getting wider and wider and it is a dangerous zone. It is a big worry to have two superstars and no one else."

News of the frisson will have registered with Jan Michael Gambill, the American, who, a touch ironically. received one of the three wild cards. Gambill, a client of Proserv, a part-promoter of the event, will almost certainly be in the United States Davis



